

What's on your mind?

inspiration. active. spirit. pirates. unity. competitive. intense. involved. pnn. **merrillyue**. mirror. **2011**.

Share



Friends Notes

opening	2	academic clubs
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sophomores	20	
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	44	

Groups Events

Links

homecoming dance & senior drive-around 8







During football season, Sophomore Anjelica Peppers wears the Pirate rostume.

Name

Merrillvue

Username

Merrillville High School

Address

276 E. 68th Place Merrillville, Indiana 46410

Password

219-650-5307







Making connections. More than simple words. As advertisers urged consumers to "get connected" and to "stay connected," Twitter, e-mail, cell phones and Facebook became central to our lives. Communication is, after all, the human connection. To make connections here, students increasingly turned to

social media, a place where the crowded hallways and long cafeteria lines were minimized and friends met new friends and bonded with old. New students entered school and looked to fit in; longtime friends parted. Part of high school will always be losing friends and gaining friends, never knowing what to expect for the year, joining a club, staying up all night to finish a project or breaking a long-standing sports record. To see where this year has taken our students, all you have to do is log in.

Log in



Friends

Megan Dicken practice was alrighttt...getting ready to hang with some of my favvv girls :)

Pages

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Albums



Wall



Emily Rocha There are big ships There are small ships But the best ship of all is friendship.



Kourtney Jones

"The difference between "like, love, and in love" is the same as the difference between "for now, for awhile, and forever..."



Vanessa Harwood

-friends are like a tree. you have your leaves that blow away and never come back. you have branches that break off and are unstable and you have your roots that arent going anywhere and will be there forever, if only i knew who my roots are...



Danielle Cotillier

Heart to Heart with the girls :) love these nights :D



Adrean Howard

Freshman year has been a blast, new friends and new experiences!

PHOTOS AT LEFT: Junior Michael Dicken and Senior Robert Robinson dress in superhero costumes for one of the boys' baskelbail games. Pirate Crew members Junior Paul Carey, Seniors Robert Robinson, Derek Taylor Jr. and Jory Cunningham and Juniors Michael Dicken and Rodney Mitchell Jr. cheer at a basketball game during the holidays.



Leading busy lives

During Winter Homecoming hosted by MPAC, Sophomore Joseph Traina and Freshman Adrianne Marquez enjoy refreshments in the Senior Citizen's Center.



Pacing each other in a long cross country run are Seniors Dylan Harrison and Jacob Caddick.

Four freshmen were chosen to participate in a mentoring program sponsored by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. Freshmen Valencia Smith, Yazmeen James, Precious Price and Brandi Smith will have the opportunity to participate in engineering. communications and operations activities as part of the partnership with NIPSCO and take college courses as high school students.



This was the year for students to "turn over a new leaf" and plunge into the unknown. Some students were able to reach far beyond their goals and be recognized at the state level, while others were fortunate enough to be offered a four-year internship with NIPSCO.

The new Pirate Crew and Challenge Ed Day served to unify the student body through athletic and interscholastic activities. Students came to understand each other in a new way and were transformed by their experiences. This year, "the sky was the limit" because of the dedication and passion of the students.



Putting the final louches on the Memory Garden, Seniors Alejandro Serrano, Neveria Djurdjevic and Charity Scotlon plant perennials. The Memory Garden began to lake root in 2005 when longtime secretary Carol Hogan died of cancer. The Class of 2011 finished the garden. As a reward for winning a door decorating contest in Student Government's Go Green Competition, an elementary student has his face painted by Senior Shaquille Cauley. "It was very fun getting the kids involved in the environment and spenting time with them for the day," Cauley said. The withners of the contest were treated to a field day at Pruzin Park.



At Disney World this year, Disney Dreamer Allisa Byrant shows off the dress that she designed with the help of a fashion artist. "It was really fun watching the woman help me with my dress," said Bryant. During the end-of-year celebration, Freshmen Vivi Tapia-Garcia and David Osorio get "tangled up" in a game of Twister.

reshmen

Mutual Friends in Math

















Jason Kendera Beth Gillespie Joseph Hussey

Massacavollo

Mutual Friends in English





.lason Sonnenberg





Sara Hurey Elisha Israel









Alison Skertic

















William Akıns III Alexis Alexander Hasan Ali













lacob Anderson







Michael Anderson T'Aira Anderson







Elise Anguiano







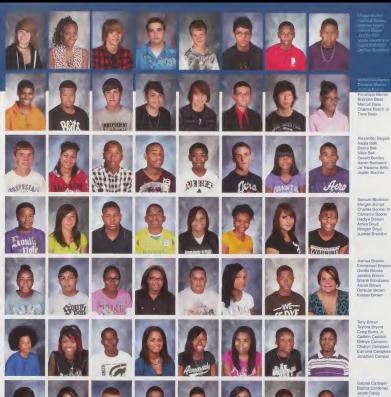
Ricky Armstrong Jr. Sebastian Arreola Melanie Atria

















Misc in

1

William Comments





Tiana Cuttino Nikell Dabadee Alexander Dailey I File Daisy Davis Joshua Davis Terra Davis Angel Dela Cruz Jacqueline DeLeon Victor Diaz III Damian Digangi Faiza Dika Shaquita Dillard Vanity Dillon Hannah Doon Nhu Doan Mary Doeing Talles. Dennis Dombrowski Dennis Dombrowski Malcolm Donley III Danel Donson Vonsha Douglas Audnanna Downs Joshua Drapeau Bakan Draper Jordan Ducret Miracle Durrah Willa Earwin Emerald Eddie Brittany Edmond Keyandra Edwards Hollyann Erskine 9 Brittany Ervin Joel Escalarite Raymond Escamilla IV Ruby Esparza Madeline Estrada Aresa Evans Destiny Felix Billy Fields III 27 Jeremy Flakes Allison Fletcher Napn' Fondren Shawn Forbes Anthony Forbes Jr. Glenn Ford III Rayquané Forté Jason Foster ROCA Isaiah Fountain Isalah Fountain Bnana Frazier Gwendolyn Freeman Aaron Fuller Tyrie Fuller Darnn Funches Jr. Harold Gage II Manssa Gallardo 1



Status Update







Briana Mason

MY MOST USED WORDS

Used 27 times: ight' Used 19 times: Geesh' Used 11 times: That's what's up

Used 5 times: Yeah









Trayvion Smith Jr.

Used 68 times: Nasty Used 30 times: Match

Used 20 times: Shut up Used 15 times: Don't trip

Used 10 times: You knew it

Used 48 times: Hey Used 32 times: Awesome Used 20 times: Cool

Used 5 times: Gil'







Jacob Gonzalez Jose Gonzalez Kristina Goodman







Tyler Gray



Nhu Doan

Status Update



Used 14 times: What's up Used 9 times: Umm

Used 5 times: Smile







Mykie Green Raelyn Greene Devone Greer







Andrew Gross Katy Guzek Katelyn Heddeway

Mutual Friends in Science



Joseph Atria Rada Bicanin-Ferguson





Dave Hinkel Sally Morgan



Jermece



Debbie Onika Williamson

Mutual Friends in Social Studies









Mutual Friends in Guidance





Lora Sterley Kerry Wiersbe

Mutual Friends in Art

































Myranda Harrie Tre'Von Harris Corey Herris Jr.















Marquise Henry Sara Hernendez













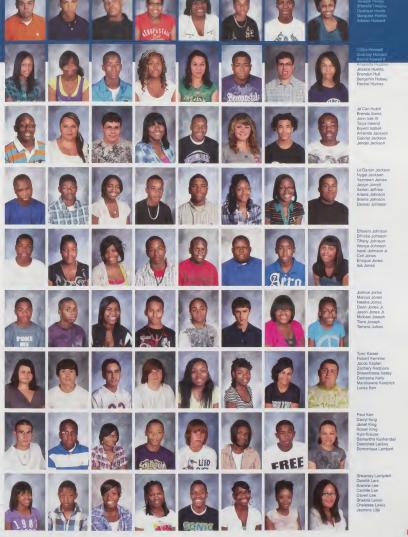
Conor Hill Trevon Hinton Shelby Holden











Kesh Manuel Jr Adnanne Marquez Peareá Marshall Tomerie Marshall Darius Marteen 10 Yes WT Christa Martin Joel Mertin Martez Mertin Micheel Mertin Jr. Stacy Martin-Ellison Jr. Fele cie Martinez John Martinez Briana Meson LINESTA 1987 Johnny Methis Jr. Johnny Methis Jr.
Marquise Maxwell
Ronald Mayersky Jr.
ELara Mayo
Collins Mbachu Jr.
Donoven McCray
Haley McDaniel Jesmin McGee and i Fabian McGhee Tine McGinnis Justice McGowen Nia McMurrey Selbie McNair Jr. Nathaniel McNary Matthew Meachem Jose Medina WISTER S Jennifer Meloy Spencer Melvin Chase Mihel Ariana Miller Payton Miller Tienna Miller Victona Miller Jasmine Millsap Demietn Miranda Kathleen Mitchell Michael Mitchell Rebekah Mongold Dienté Montgomery Tsai Montgomery Arthur Moore IV Fan Darnald Morgan Jr. المالية Devonie Morris Lindsay Moto Cristopher Mryszuk William Munchenburg Dej'A Murphy Howerd Murray Jesmin Neverro Lauren Neal Ryan Neal Sherdey Neely Richerd Neely III Shevonne Nelson Williem Nelson Affredo Nevarez Jr. Anna Newell Terrence Nichols :13:13:





MERRELYHLE













Anthony Ortiz David Osorio







Alyssa Oteno Tadja Outler Jveughn Owens



Angelique Oyervides Karlos Pecheco Devid Perker







Kenneth Perkhem Jr. Frederick Patterson Jr. Seen Petton







Desiree Payton Charles Pene Precious Perez

Jose Perez Jr. Courtney Peterson Alicia Pickens









Malcolm Pitts Britney Platts Nathene Polezoes

Mutual Friends in Special Education









Kim Corman

Barb Dlouhy Charles Gleason Darcie Johnston











Kathy Jones

Sarah Krowka

Rick Parker

Kim Hayes





















Whitney Strimbu

Amy Hill

James Simon

Mutual Friends in Media Centers











Kenyon









Meredith Sperling

Mutual Friends in Support Staff







Christine Eaton Sue Gaines



Martha Ortiz









Linda Hall Nicki Jusko

Debbie Klippel

Kristin Maglish









Marilyn Thien Marsha Pierson Cheryl Ursery

Heidi Dulla







Debrah Willison Vicki Paulnitz

Scholtens

Mutual Friends in Administrators



Amy Beckham



























Brittany Rainey Christophar Ramsay Jr. Yvonya Randia







lah Rasheed Luka Ratley















Briana Reina Devon Raynolds Rajauné Richards







Justin Richardson Kamana Richardson Edward Rilay







Kaylyn Rilay Robert Rilay Cortlan Robinson

Mallk Robinson Damall Robinson Jr. Eric Robinson Jr.













Janis Qualizza





























Nancy Sainas Alex Sampson Aaron Sanders Senoble Sanders Shaniqua Sandiler Kathryn Sarsheld Thomes Scolaro III Rachel Scollon A'Leeh Scott Brianna Scott Selene Salbar Kiera Shackelford































Imen! Smith Jordan Smith Jordyn Smith Lauren Smith Trayvion Smith Velencia Smith Joseph Smith II Troy Smith Jr.















Pyan Soto Ton Spear Michael Spicknall Slarra Spivey Michael Spudic Jr. Tatlane Starka Jessica Staphensoi Isabella Stevens

















Giara Stevenson Giara Stevenson
Kassy Stewart
Pans Stewert
Shantalaine Stewart
Jecob Stocker
Avionce Stokaa
Ashley Stotte
Steven Stout



































Alasa Terry Tihyya Terry Reyvona Therolus Kamare Thomas Kryste Thomas Kristin Thornton Larry Tillman Jr. Ashley Timmona

ABERCROMBIE LATER Alicia Vasquez
Horizon Vasquez-Mcgee
Meagan Viehman
Vanessa Villarreal Cartiyn Walker Kura Walker Kemeyon Ward Michalila Ward Ashton Washington Jamelah Washington Treyvonn Washington Lorenzo Watkins Frank Webster Makayla Webster Andreana Wesley Johnell West Jeremish Wheatley Ashley White Ethan White Naeemah Whiten Bnan Whiten Kennedy Wilck Kristen Wiley Megan Wilkerson Brittarry Wilkerso Chelsea Williams Davelon Williams Dorothy Williams Lamontyonna Williams

Marquis Williams Montona Williams My-Nisha Williams Perijana Williams Shawnece Williams Shyvon Williams Terrence Williams Mitchell Williams Jr

> Javaun Willis Asia Wilson Enc Wilson Jr. Montel Winbush Jasmine Woods Ronald Woods Taylor Woods Rebecca Wray





甸































Social Interview



"If you could choose between \$1 million and being able to fly, what would you choose?"

"Flying, because money can't buy everything, but flying no one can do." -Freshman Edward Gryczewski

Back

Ask me a different question about Edward Gryczewski

Mutual Friends in Physical Education







Kyle Prow

Molly Crawn

Ben Daniel

Jeff Fairbaim

Sean Hudson



Tricia Lukawski



Brian Zdych



Britnye Cameron and Alissa Terry

What makes her such a good friend? "She's a really nice friend to talk to. We're the same in everything we do."

Alissa Terry "Whenever I have a problem, she helps me though everything. She's always the one I talk to."

- Britnye Cameron

Mutual Friends in Technology







Jay Shoup



Steve Kerr

Mike Rogers







Mary McVade

John Gaydula

Friend of the Day



Faiza Dika and Cree Smith

What makes her such a good friend?

What is something that you do exclusively?

walk around."

"We're, like, super close. We do do everything together. We're like family." - Faiza Dika "I can talk to her about everything. She knows things that my family doesn't even know."

"We go to the mall, like, all the time. Not even to buy anything, just to hang out and - Faiza Dika

"Sometimes, after we have talked on the phone for hours and we've hung up with each other, I'll call her, like, 2 minutes after because I miss her."

- Cree Smith

Mutual Friends in World Languages





David Maldonado

Esmeralda Palmerin

Class of 2013 NOMOVES

Mutual Friends in Industrial Technology







Rick Garner

Steven Prather

Rick Hurey







Mackovyak

Honesty Box



What is Jovan Nelson saving about Brooke Wilson?

"I love her as a friend. She's smart, funny and plays tennis."



What is Roman Salas saying about Edith Amitoelau?

"I love her. She is friendly, awesome and a great fist pumper. I just love her."









Breeene Adeniyi Maryem Adise Peule Akınrınede Jibrie Alı









Denny Allen St'Phon Allen









Edith Amitoelau DeAndre Ammons











Eernest Anderson II Yvon Anguieno Kesie Antich Amy Aponte









Tyrin Applewhit Juen Arelleno nne Arichavale Zahre Arifee









Ashley Armstrong Stephanie Armstrong Brooklyn Ashby Vita Avitie









Zecarrie Belley Brendon Beldwin

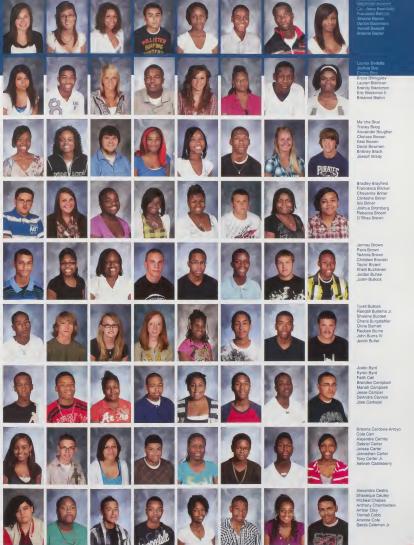












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Jonah Ducret
Darius Dukes
Kyle Durham
Aaron Dye
Eugene Dykes
Jared Earwin
Jeylen Ellis 700 Nicholas Enghofer Andrea Ennquez Angelica Erskine Clement Ervin Kendall Ervin Amber Falascheth Adeyinka Fashewe Casey Fejes ABILISTE Y Jonathon Feliciano
Prince Fallox
Summer Fields
Anan Fisher
Skyler Fisher
Edwin Fitzsimmons
Zachary Fies
Ane Flores Ane Flores Christa Floras Christa Floras Crystal Flores Jessica Flores Sarah Flores Gabnella Floyd DeAndre Frazier Taylor Gaddy Adam Gercia MALI Alan Garcia James Garcia Christian Gerza Eric Gatewood Taylor Gibson Netheniel Gilhem III Breia Givens Ashley Glenn A CONDOCTATE













DeMarshe Green Anthony Griffin Cedric Griffin







Dezmond Griffin







Jorge Gutterrez Vanenna Guy

















Jorden Herns Marcus Harris Shannon Hern Tia Herris



















Leeyah Hervey

Tell a Friend Your First Impression Jordan Phillips

Choose a friend . . .

Danielle Kemp

When I first met vou . . . "She was loud and always laughing."

Jamie Krawczykowski

Choose a friend . . .

Marti Kulakowski

When I first met you . . .

"I did not like her because I thought she was stuck up and better than everyone else, but now we are like sisters."

Lauren Lamb

Choose a friend . . .

Regan Rios

When I first met you . . .

"I always wondered why she was always at my birthday parties when we never hung out, but now we hang out every day."

Josalyn Rivera

Choose a friend . . .

Hannah Lane

When I first met you . . .

"When I first saw her she was dressed up as a mouse and I thought she was crazy, but now she's like sister to me."

Danielle Cotillier

Choose a friend . . .

Hannah Lane

When I first met vou . . .

"I thought she was a total ditz, clueless and a klutz.

Francesca Bricker

Choose a friend . . .

Lauren Lamb

When I first met you . . .

"I thought she was really tiny, and I was in love with her hair. She was loud and laughing all the time."

Choose an emotion













Mutual Friends in Security





Nicole Kendrick

Daryl Bowie







Tim Washington Brian Hebert





Brad Best

Mutual Friends in ENL





Dawn Czuba

















Jaylen Hollfield Christopher Hollingsworth Dé Jshon Hollins Erice Hometer









Brittani Hood Clarenca Hosea Ricky Houston Jr. Letreli Hudson











Zhenique Hudson Rhona Hughey Alishe Irelend Katlyn Ison









Jessica Jackson Shedya Jackson Stephen Jeckson Austin Jemerson









Khelil James Quinton Jamison Daniel Jenkuloski Mirande Jenuszewski









Alejandro Jera Quamon Jefferson Cerlos Jenkins Jr. Alente Johnson









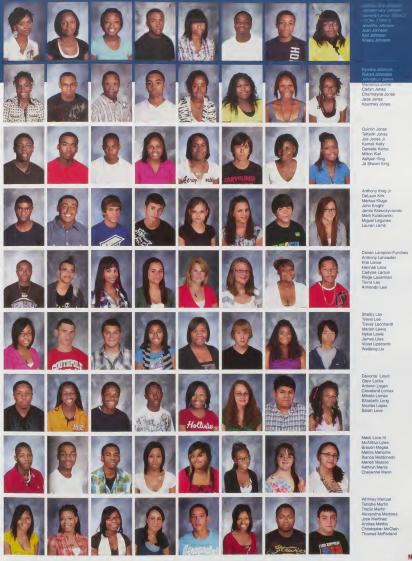
Corey Johnson Denielle Johnson Demonte Johnson Donisha Johnson











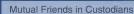
d AE Kyli Meskur a Meza-DeLstorre Kornaria Millard Alexis Miller Peschel Miller Jr. Depreecta Mirns Jaten Minor Jessica Mireles Dante Mister Alex Mojica Marissa Mongold Deriyan Morns Andre Moton Naim Muhammad Brittany Multigan Alex Murga Kelly Nangin Guadalupe Navarro Julien Neel Ryan Negrelli Jovan Netson Taylor Neverez Amanda Nevitt Paige Nichols Etzabeth Nieves Michael Norwood Janay Olague Jamal Oliver Nicholas Oman Netalia Ooms Breanna Outfar O'Shea Owens Jamerd Owens Jr. George Papamihalakis Jacob Pardus Sheridan Parker Joshue Parker-Clark
Darian Patton
DeAnthony Patton
Gershom Patton Rebecca Paul Christian Pearson Mackenzie Pearson Diamonds Peebles Julian Pene Anjelica Peppers Alejandro Perez Luis Perez Faul Book 200 41 William Perry Tyler Person Aeneyle Peterson Alexia Peterson Jerrell Peterson Tiemey Peterson Ashley Phillips Jordan Phillips The Water aero Kara Philips Zachary Philips Taylor Pierce Dakota Prits Xavier Prits Precyous Plainer

Precyous Plainer Jordan Poe Cleven Poe Jr.





















Nada Kolar









Christina Haverty

Mark Fairbairn Patricia Eckert

Dragica Gajic







Vesna Mitic











Jacob Raspopowich Jordan Reaves Jocelyn Recio Khari Reed







Robert









Michael Reed Steven Reed Unique Reed Jhani Reid



Cvetlana









Marcela Reyes Micah Reynolds Kenyatta Richards Lacey Richards













Allayah Richardson Marshay Richmond Regan Rios Amber Ritchie

Josalyn Rivera Louis Robb James Roberts Jordan Robertson

























Mutual Friends in FACS



Shelley Ray

Pat Smith

Sara Stallings



Margaret Stallings

Carol Von Behren

Mutual Friends in Daycare





Farida Contractor

Gronowski

Mutual Friends in PNN





Brian Past





Would you ever date Sophomore James Medwetz? "No. He's cute, but he's not my type."

Sophomore Zahra Arifee

Back

Skip

Ask me a different question about James Medwetz.

Eugene Rogers Marquise Rogers Maxin Rolland Alexandna Romanow











































Stephanie Samuels Kaelin Sanchez Luisalfonso Sanchez

Jillian Sandefur D'Anthony Sanders Breanna Saxinger Tyler Scheive

Ashley Schiller James Schilling Bemard Scott III

Kevia Semmes

































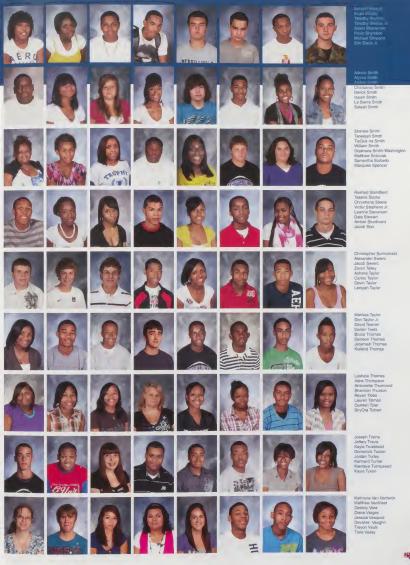












Hurley) Andre Wulker Cournere Walker Darrell Walls Aliena Walkon Ashley Ward Kendall Warfield Matthew Warren Dionne Washington 美 DIBATIS Kyle Washington Ronald Washington Brittani Watson Clarence Watson Valene Watson Jasmine Watts Jarrett Weathersby 大学 Dennis Weber II NESTHE Anton West Jr.
Devin Westbrooks
Bryan White
Errol White Jr.
Kevin Wilkerson
Aliyah Williams
Brendan Williams
Daquen Williams 3 India J. Wilhams India K. Wilhams Jacqulyn Williams Justice Williams Lawren Williams Travon Williams Roland Williams IV Jerreen Williamson AERnon Gabnelle Willford Brooke Wilson Dion Wilson Isaiah Wilson Jazzmyn Wilson Keri Wilson Khanque Wilson Santanika Wilson Branton Wingate Lesley Winston Wesley Winston Davonna Witherspoon Dionne Witherspoon Joseph Witkowski 5 Ashley Witt Se (cel Kevin Woodfork Sterling Woodson Karley Woodson Kelli Wnght Treyon Wnght Recine Wynn Destiny Yoder Kathleen Zuniga C

65

Mutual Friends in the Cafeteria













Mary Vernia

Rosa Angulo

Prezonia Carroll

Williemetta Crawford

Teresa Harness

Sheila Broom

Themelina Kritikos

Angelica Nunn

















Carrie Demoff Cheryl Denney

Leilani Reiser

Juana Garza Stacy Parkhurst Penny Parmley

Kay Pikus

Pamela Roberts















Elima Lockett

Noura Mohamed Kawana Noland Karen Reder Dorothy Yetsko

Terri Rothgeb

Ruthie Sumbry Eileen Sweet

Honesty Box



What is Anthony Lancaster saying about Joshua Leschinsky? "He's a great friend, but he can be very mean to people sometimes. He is weird, loud and funny."



What is Jessica Vasquez saying about Miguel Lagunas?

"We've been friends since the first grade. He's always been there for me, and he's just been an overall great friend."



Anjelica Peppers

Why? What's up?



Anjelica Peppers? Jelli? The one who is a three-sport athlete, crimpeting in cross team? The one who participated in the Goofy Games during Homecoming?

Yeah, I know her, Why? What's up?



Joseph Cowser





Petey the Pirate

Joseph Cowser? Joey? The one who plays quarterback and wide receiver on the JV football team? The one who plays in the outfield on the baseball team? Yeah, I know him. Why? What's up?

uniors of 2012

Mutual Friends in English





Erin Mulloy-Flores

Debra Monix

Pamela Schuetz







Lee Meyer







Mizimakoski

Jean Stanford

Melissa Sickinger







Andrea Seeman David Hossler







Teresa Procter

Patrice Weil Wheeler

Rachel Sonnenberg











Ashlay Ahlborn Dominic Aldarson Alicia Allan Jamal Allen









Aaron Amlotte Dion' Dra Andarson Nichola Anderson Shakir Andersor









Davina Anthony Thomas Anthony IV Rachal Aratri











April Ashe Jose Avalos Rico Ayala Nicholas Badali











Jacob Bahana April Balley Charesa Bakar Rosalyn Bakar









Jeramy Baldwin Chardonnay Balkcom Richard Balkcom













































Rayshawn Bradshi A-Kee Briner Alsha Briner Gebriel Britton Adem Brodle



















Gregory Brousseau Aishe Jeneeâ Brown Alehe Lynn Brown Derrail Brown Erricke Brown Nia Brown Bruce Brown Jr.







-COUNTY









lyane Butler Adrienne Butts Lisette Cebrere Micheel Cebrera Jerod Cell
Emmenuel Celvillo
Jeanplerre Cerdenes
Jorden Cerey















Peul Carey Leuren Cerniello LaQuana Cerpenter Micheel Cerpenter Aurielle Carson Teylor Certer Joehue Cervantez Alonzo Cherles















Onterio Childs Jr.
Nekie Clerk
Janee' Clevelend
Jasmine Clevelend
Kheri Coker
Keonne Colbert
Jerel Cole
Kecey Cole















Jeremy Colline Shantehra Collins Shantenra Collins Telle Constant Reshewn Conwell Collin Cook Leeh Cook Indyle Cooke

Dena Collins















Dyamond Cooper Larry Cooper Leesh Cooper Melleka Coops Alyesa Cotillier Paris Courtney Dylen Crene Tyran Crawford

Re TRA! Dean Davis Desiree Davis Brianna DeCausemaker Michael DeVany Sherron Dennie The World Street Daniel Diaz Javae Diaz
Javae Diaz
Megan Dicken
Michael Dicken
Melvin Dickinson Jr.
Octavia Dilhon-Wilson Alexandra Domoras Oishianna Doss Joseph Drapeau Shaxavier Drayton Shawn Dwyer Holland Earl Leslie Easterling Bnonna Eastland Alexis Edwards Alexis Edwards
Aries Edwards
Melissa Eggleston
Jasmine Evin
Dane Ezemack
Jazmine Fields
Gerardo Flores
Jah Rome Fogle Antonio Foley Jalen Foster Noah Foster Brianna Fotinos Kyair Frye Antoinette Galliday Amanda Galvan Jade Galvan enit Eliseo Gamino Abraham Garcia Antonio Garcia Crystal Garcia John Garreffa Andrea Garza Shan Gaston Garett Gault Jacob Gibson Jacob Gibson Sean Gibson Jose Gonzalez Eibryn Goode Samantha Gordon Harsh Goyal Brittany Grady Earl Grady SUVER SPAL Shavon Graham Kenyah Grant Kayla Greene Latrice Greenwood Cameron Grundy Kaitin Grzybowski Edgar Guadarrama

STORES OF THE PARTY OF THE PART















Nate' Hardin Tiara Hardy







Mathew Harms Brent Harris



Melody Harris Michael Harris





Mychil Harris Myeisha Harris Tasia Harris



Cymeburhieah Hayes Jamelle Hemphill





Imani Henderson Victoria Henderson





Briana Higareda Loreal Hill

Mutual Friends in Science



Luis Lopez

Miles Dunscombe

Michelle Barker Kristin Campbell







Melissa Valsi

Mark McCullom Maryetta Petras







Dawnell Spriggs Sally Williamson

Jeff Yelton



What's your talent?



What's your talent? I sing.

- How long have you been singing?
- I have been singing for 13 years. When did you discover your talent?
- I was six years old. Do you like your talent?
- Yes, I love it. What do you like about your talent?
 - I get to express myself, and it's a lot of different styles.
- How do you benefit from your talent? The girls like it. It's a great hobby, confidence booster and, also, a career option.

Mutual Friends in Math





Michael Hoffman Gall Nicolini



Kira Healy







Nancy Draper

Alan Branda

Wade Boise Deanne Pierce







Jennifer Leek Sean Meagher



O'Connell





Kathy Rock

Charles Seligman

Mutual Friends in Performing Arts









Mark Danielson

Reinhart

Stephen Elser













Ashlan Howerd Logen Hubbard Christopher Hughes







Danial Humes Marchon Huntar Williem Isabeli







Andra Jackson Brinesha Jackson Charizma Jackson







Derryck Jackson Ebony Jeckson Johnathan Jeckson







Coray Jacobs Robin Jekich Frank Jefferson









Edward Johnson Fraadom Johnson Jordan Johnson

Daniel Jimenez Domynek Johnson Donielle Johnson

























Phashawnty Josep Diamond Kallar Tray Kally Tyler Kepchar Jalel Khelid





3

























Nicollatta Lambert Spree Lang Jacob Larson Carley Laughaad Gine Laa Josaph Lee Kayla Lee Ladane Lee













Tiffany Lae Jordyn Laws Jasmine Liggins Melcolm Lindsay Deniel Lipp Meurisha Lord Nehkayla Lovaless Anthony Luckett















Levi Lungaro Sarah MacDoneld Johnte Marrett Byenca Marquez Dore Martin-Ellison Cirita Martinaz Danial Martinaz Jr.















Cristien Mertinaz Trajo Alejendra Mata Nebeka Mathews Leonerd Methews II Tiflany Mays Antonio McClay Mercedes McClendon Nekel McClinton

Brandon McCotry Brandon McCotry Christopher McCoy Jesmina McCoy Deafricka McDanial Brandon McDoneld Charles McGee Kevin Meacham Kaylaan Mendoze



































Kyle Mulser Broi Murphy Kathleen Murphy Raveen Murray Brandon Neal Joyce Negron Kendall Nelson the six the Mekyla Nelson Kandice Nicholson Michael Nickson Amanda Noojin Travis Norman John Nosich Robert Novoa Alyssa Nymeyer Brandon Odom Folahanmi Oduwaye Joshua Oliver Joshua Oliver Leticia Ontiveros Graciela Ortiz Selena Otano Donneisha Owens 12 Luis Padilla Anthony Palm Briddney Palm Robert Parson Demontae Pate Mia Patikas Joseph Patton Rachel Paul HEY Carlos Payne
Darryl Peppers
Moises Perez
David Perkins
Jamel Peterson
Jasmine Peterson
Rene` Petty
Donovan Phillips AB7 31.000 Charles Pickett Charleston Pickett Dante Pickett Dante Pickett
Caleb Pirtle
Anthony Pitts Jr.
Andrew Porter
Ashley Powell
Aurielle Powell immature (de la constante de la constant Brittney Powell Ebonee Pulliam Diamond Pullins Crystal Quintero Jorge Quintero Avila Jordan Ramos Allison Ramsey Shikeia Randolph Amber Ratcliff Airius Reed Albert Reed Andrea Reed D'Andre Reed Devon Reed Jessica Reed Samuel Reed 190 1 9 99 3











Saul Rivera Chazz Roberts Zechary Roberts







Adnan Robinson Cameron Robinson Lo'Real Robinson













Miesha Robinson Rasheeda Robinson Tachina Robinson















Tatiana Ruiz Brooklyn Russell Lugmenn Ruth









Reven Saavedre Nikko Sadural Yeritze Saenz

Mutual Friends in ROTC





Major Guy Ramev

SSgt. Dan Wrasman

Mutual Friends in Physical Education





Amy Govert

Sue Hayes

Honesty Box



Trent Turner is answering...

"What is your favorite memory?"

"Running in sectionals for track in 2010 in Crown Point. I was the only sophomore running."

"Who is your crush?"

"Gabrielle Ponce, since freshman year."

"Who is your favorite teacher?"

"Mr. Branda".

"What is your favorite lunch food?"

"Chicken patty."

"What is your favorite classroom?"

"Mr. Petralia's."

Mutual Friends in Social Studies





Amber Baron



Anthony Hofer Michael Knocke









Diane Mandon Dan Moslander Robert Bedwell

Christopher Richardson









Dan Schoon

Mark Schellinger James Stamper

Katie Russo

Mutual Friends in World Languages







Mary Ann Bertram

Evelyn Steiner









Decosta-Gomez













Stormie Schilling Tyler Schilling Dennis Scott







Tyler Scott Reven Seels Amon Seercy







Edward Seey Jr. Adem Serwecki Tyler Shockey







Vontia Shorter Deborah Shoulder Jelen Sievers







Averyl Sims Brishene Sims Cortez Sims







Cyerra Sims Jebria Sistrunk Amber Smith





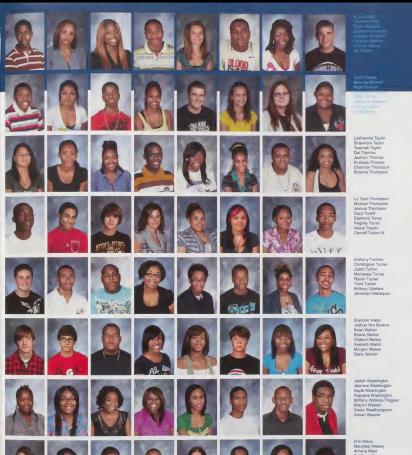


Cheunice Smith Denielle Smith Ineshe Smith









Erin Weiss Meurissa Westey Amana West De Quan West Michael Whelan Enk White Peris White Weyne Whitmer



Mutual Friends in Guidance





Michelle Sulich Grace DeWald Greg Geimer





Betty Jordan

Veronica Maldonado





Cari Hooper

Michelle Wilson

Mutual Friends in Business









Christine Dixon

Rae Lopez

Mutual Friends





Danny Lackey

Terry Dawson













Alva Wilson Danielle Winburn Shermika Winston







Brandi Wolak Floyd Woods Kourtney Woods











Talisha Wright Jennifer Yanez Jonathan Yanez

















Social Interview



Who do you think you would make "best couple" with?

"My baby girl Gabby Ponce, because we are the perfect match."

- Junior Zachary Sandefur

Back Publish to Gabriela Ponce's Wall Skip

Ask me a different question about Gabriela Ponce

Cashmere Jones I must admit...



I'm scared of rats.

I am scared of them because they are creepy, little and their tails are long.

I was at my aunt's house, and I was walking to the bathroom, and I stepped on something. I looked down and saw it was a dead rat.

Profile Picture Analysis



David Hertl Cool: 73 percent Cute: 100 percent Smart: 40 percent

Rodney Mitchell Jr. Cool: 65 percent Cute: 80 percent Smart: 46 percent





Alejandra Mata Cool: 36 percent Cute: 102 percent Smart: 60 percent

Brianne Baylor Cool: 85 percent Cute: 86 percent Smart: 40 percent





Seniors

Zachary Raspopovich Just another day having fun with the guys. Even though it was cold we still had a good time.

Pages

senior portraits

46

Albums







Wall



Malorie Baker

Just finished this senior will. I wish I could write more than 500 words [;



Arlen Sims

Senior year is starting to get fun...



Charles Smith

I put my hoodie for Purdue on today and one number ran through my mind. 38 days



Rodrick May

High school is almost over next step is college.



Alyssa James

I miss seeing my swim fam everyday.. I miss the pool..

I even miss swimming in the pool

if only there was a rewind button..

PHOTOS AT LEFT: During Commencement, Senior Dereck Bailey receives his diploma. Seniors Kalie Domikaitis and Sara Dora hug. Senior Michael Barnett enjoys friends, knowing that this will be the last time all the seniors are together.









Taishe Abrams







Tierra Allen CT 11,12; Drumline 11,12; Aide 9







Archibald Amitoelau Caitlynn Anderson CT 11,12; Concert Choir 10; KC 10,11; SC 9-12; o, RC 10,11, 3C 9-12 Sftbl. 9; STAND 12; VC 9; Vltns. 11; VT 12





KC 12







Diving 10; SG 12; MPAC 11,12; Tennis 9-12





Floyd Bailey



Samantha Bailey Band 9-12; NHS 11,12; NHS Ofc. 12; TA 12; SP 9-10,12; YES 12



Shaquille Bailey





Samantha Balash DC 12; DC Ofc. 12; FP 12; K.B. 12; SP 11,12; Thespians 12





Benjamin Banks Aktion Club 12; SO 10-12





CT 11; Concert Choir 9,10; GACC 11,12; Aide 10-12; PH 12 Yearbook 11











Keshala Pinster



Band 10-12; Drumline



Ana Bellman FCCLA 10-12; FCCLA Ofc. 12; KC 10,11; SG Tennis 9



Evin Bielak Cheerleading 9-12



Bianca Blanchard



Nicole Blas AC 12; NHS 11,12; PH 12; TA 11,12



Baseball 9-12; CAD 9-11; Diving 9-12; Swimming 11,12; MPAC 11,12



Band 9,10; Football 10-12; NHS 12



Valerie Bly Gymnastics 9-12; SADD 12; SM 12; Track 9-12; MPAC 11,12



Douglas Boskamp





Soccer 12



11,12; STAND 12; SADD 12; SG 9,10; TA 12; Track 10-12; Track Capt. 11,12



Chambria Brown Bskt. 9-11; SOSA 12;



Gymnastics 9,10; SG 10,11; SM 12





Ryan Brown CAD 9-11





Osha Brownlee C Ofc. 11; CG 9-12; STAND 12: SG 9-12: SG Ofc. 12; MT 12;



Clyde Byed III CC 12; NHS 11,12; TA 12; Track 11,12



Band 9-11; CC 10-12; NHS 11,12; Swimming 9-12: Swimming Capt. 11,12; Track 9-12; MPAC 10-12; TA 12



A'Shanti Caldwell







Dance Team 9-11; PC 12: Revue 9-10, 12: TA





Aide 11: Soccer 9-12: Soccer Capt. 12; SADD 10,12; SM 10,11; TC 11; Track 9; MPAC 10-12



Kevin Carnana Band 9.10: CC 9-12: Track 9-11



Shagnille Cauley STAND 12: SG 12: Thespians Ofc. 9,10; Track 9.10





11; Track 12; Yearbook 11

Kelli Chavez Band 9-12; Drumline 9-12; FM -11,12; NHS 12; PH 11; SP 12; STAND TA 10



Bianca Clark ng Capl. 10; Class Ofc. 9; DC 9,10; FCCLA 9-11; FC 9-11; MT 12; PNN MS 12; PNN FS 10-12; SDT 12; STAND Ofc. 2; Volleyball 9,11; Dance Tea





Jasmine Clark Track 10



Russell Cole II CT 10-12; Concert Choir 9; DC 10-12; DC Ofc. 12; FP 11,12; Revue 11; SC 9-12; SP 10-12; Thespians 11,12; VT 10-12;



Jewon Cooke Bldg. Trades 11,12; CAD 10



Hivut Crawford-Taylor Bowling Team 12; Class News. 10; Soccer 9-12; Ofc. 9-11: FM 11.12: PM 12; SG 9-12; TA 12; TC 10.11



Messay Crawford-Taylor Swimming 11,12; TC 9-12; YES 11,12



Broshawna Crowder



Paul Crowley FEA 11; Golf 11: Orchestra 9-12



Concert Choir 9: STAND 12









12; GA 11; SDT 12; SADD Ofc. 12







Aide 12; Autoshop 12; BT 12: Class Ofc. 9-12: KC 9-12; KC Ofc. 11; SG 9-12; SM 10



Melissa Delgado



Anthony DiCangi Football 9-12; Track 10,11





Nevena Djund jevic Bskt. 9,10; FC 12; IU HP 11; TA 11



Meredith Dobes Band 9-12; Drumline 9- Band 11,12; Orchestra 12; NHS 11,12; News. 9-12; Sftbl. 9,10; 10-12; News. Ed. 11,12; QS 11,12; Revue 10,12



9-12; Sftbl. 9,10; SP 11,12; Volleyball 9,10



Samli Dova



Daniella Douglas Band 9-12; FM 11,12; KC 10; MB 11; NHS 12; SP 9,10; TA 12;



MPAC 12; MT 12; SG 11,12; TA 12; Track 11; YES 11,12



Trancis Dusik CC 9-12; MPAC 10-12; NHS 11,12; TA 10-12; Track 9-11: Academic Superbowl





Alexis Ent







Ashton Edwards









CT 12; Concert Choir 10; DC 9,12; FP 12; 9,10; SP 11; VC 11; Vitns. 12





Clatok unbo Fashawe Bskt. 9-12; Bskt. Capt. 12; Football 9



Matthew Payson Bskt. 9; CAD 9,10; CT 10-12; Concert Choir 10; Football 9; Revue 10-12; TC 10; VT 11,12; SP 11-12; STAND 12



Maisha Feagin



Stephanie Forcell BC 11,12; Chess Club 9; CG 11; SOSA 12; DT 11; DC 9-10, 12; FEA 12; FEA 01c. 12; FM 11; KC 9,11; QBT 9,12; Revue 10; SDT 12; SM 11,12; TC 9,10;

VC 9; Volleyball 9; Yearbook 12



achary Fidler CAD 9-12



Raven Finch



Cavolynne Flock



Matthew Flores



Salina Noves TA 11; Volleyball 9,10; Volleyball Capt. 9,10



Jonathan Floyd Football 9, 11-12; FM 12



Phil Ford



Isis Fvanklin



Chvistian Frink
Band 9-12; DC 9-12;
FM 11,12; NHS 12;
NHS Ofc. 12; PM 9-12;
Revue 11,12; SDT 12;
SG 12; TC 11,12;
Track 9



Robert Gabric Jr.



Joseph Carcia Autoshop 9, 11-12



Najvia Gaskin



Monte G



estiny ∪en≔



PNN M.S. 10



Ericka Gilliam



Michael Gillis Football 9-11; FM 12; Golf 9-12; Golf Capt. 12; P Ct. 11; QS 11,12; TA 11,12; Yearbook 11,12; YSE 11,12



LaVontecia Gist CC 9; DC 9-12; FM 11,12; KB 11,12; Aide 11,12; SP 11; STAND 11,12; Thespians 10-12



Rashad Givens



daquetine Coxto



Davien Govnick Football 9-12; Track 9-12; WC 9-12



Cloria Graham Band 9-12; DC 11,12; FP 12; FCCLA 11; FM 11; Revue 11,12; SP 9-12; TA 12; Thespians 11,12



levemy Graham



Jasmin Griffin Cheerleading 10-12; Cheerleading Capt. 11; DC 10; Yearbook 12



ittany Hall Sea



Sean Ha



Villiam Hall



Joshua Hammonds



Tiava Hannah Revue 10,11; Track 10



alliopi Havamant Orchestra 9-11



Brett Harley Jr.



Sydney Handd FM 11,12; MPAC 11,12; NFT 10-12; Orchestra 9,10; Soccer 9-12; Soccer Capt. 12; Sftbl. 9-12; TA 12; SADD 12



Raevyn Harpev
Aide 12; Cheerleading 912; Cheerleading Capt. 12;
KC 9-10, 12; KC Ofc. 12;
News. 11,12; News. Ed.
11,12; PM 9-12; QS 11,12;
SG 12; Tennis 9,10



Brandon Havris



Duclah Harris Bowling Team 10-12; SG 9, 11-12; YES 11,12



Tyler Havis



Dylan Havison



Vanessa Harwood STAND 11; VC 12



Nulip Hays
Autoshop 10-12; Chess
Club 11; CG 11; Football 10; GC 11; Socer
11; STAND Ofc. 11; SG
11; Swimming Capt. 11
Track 10, 11



Lakarra Hendricks Aide 10; Dance Team 11; TA 9



Kevin Henry II
Autoshop 11,12; CAD
10-12; Span. C 11,12;
Span. C Ofc. 11,12; SG
12; Swimming 12



Samantha Hevil NFT 10; PNN F.S. 12



Shelby Hicks



Chandler Hill Gymnastics 9-12; ST 12





Johna Hogan Bskt. 11, 12; Bskt. Capt. 9,10; HCB



Shaunice Holbrook CT 11,12; CC 10; DC 9-12; DC Otc. 10; FP 9,10; MT 12; P CL. 11; Revue 11; SC 10-12; SDT 12; SP 11; STAND 12; TA 11; TC 11; Tennis 9; Thespians 9-12; Thespians Ofc. 10; VC 9; VT 11.12



Hollingsworth KC 9; SG 11, 12



Mitchell Holman





Dean Hughes



Christopher Huley GC 11; DT 12; PH 12; PNN F.S. 12; SG 11,12; SG Ofc. 12; TA 10; YES







Ericiona Jackson





Ashley Jamesson Band 9-12; FM 11,12; Jazz Band 9-12; MPAC 11,12; NHS 11,12; Track 9-12; Volleyball 9-12; Revue 10,12



Alyssa James Aide 12; Swimming 9-12



Renitia James



Angelique Jevnigan



Aaron Johnson



Chantel Johnson







Bskt. 9-12; Bskt. Capt. 10-12; FM 12; MPAC





Lavon Jones CT 10-12; Concert Choir 9; SC 10-12; SP 11; STAND Ofc. 12; VT 10-12



Decid dordan DT 12; FM 11,12; 12; Swimming 10-12; Track 10-12



Idaa dadaga



Eleni Kazonis EC 9-12; MB 9-12; PNN F.S. 10,11; PC 11; Soccer 9-11; Soccer Capt. 9,10; Tennis 9



Maurice Kelly Jr.



Lauva Kennedy Aktion Club 12



Anthony Kidd



Rebekkah Kiman



Mawin Kimbeough



Dwien King Art Club 12; Art Club 0fc. 12; CG 9-10, 12; SOSA 11; DC 9-10, 12; FP 12; FM 12; KB 12; STAND 11,12; SG 9-10, 12



Abiquil Kick patrick G.A.C.C. 12; TA 12



Christopher Knight



Sun Koeph



Condice Lambert
Art Club 10-12;
CAD 11,12; FM 12;
KC 9-11; KC Ofc. 11;
STAND 11,12;
Tennis 9-12;
Tennis Capt. 12



Lauren Lambert SOSA 11; FM 12; KC 9-12; KC 0fc. 11; PM 12; QBT 12; SDT 12; STAND 11,12; SG 12; Tennis 9-11; Tennis Capt. 12



Eric Lane



Anna Leventis Soccer 11, 12



Stephanie Lobody Band 10-12; DC 9,10; FP 9,10; NHS 12; TA 11,12; VDDQ 10



Jessica Lowery
Aide 12; Cheerleading
9; Dance Team 10,11;



Alexander Luna



Takela Malone



Antawon Marshall Jr.



Jessica Martin Softball 9-11; Sftbl. Capt.10-12 TC 9-11; Volleyball 12; WC 9-11



Mauran Martin



Alexander Matthews



weaunna waxi



Mya Mayfidd Band 11,12; DC 10-12; FP 11,12; FC 11,12; Orchestra 9-11; Revue 11,12; Soccer 9-12; SP 10-12; Thespians 11,12; WC 12



Chelu Nicthin Concert Choir 10-12; SOSA Ofc. 11; DC 9; STAND Ofc. 11,12; TC 11; VC 9



Ariana McDanid Yearbook 12; YSE 12



Vicholo McFadand Monique McMillian Band 9-11; Orchestra 9-12; Tennis 9, 10 KC 9



Markell McMurray



Budley Mayo

Heather Mihal Art Club 12; SOSA 10-12; DC 11,12; FC 9-12; FC Ofc. 11,12; TA 12



Brandon Melnar Autoshop 11; Track 11



Latoya Moo



Ken jivo Nangin Chess Club 10-12; Soccer 10-12



Matthew North



Lea Ndigan
DC 10-12; NHS 11,12;
Revue 11,12; SP 12;
SG 9-12; Tennis 9-12;
Tennis Capt. 12;
Thesplans 11,12



Viviana Nevavez



Johna Nevins Trey Chess Club 9-12



Shelby Newe



Alexandria Nocton CG 9,12; Dance Team 9-10, 12; Dance Team Capt. 12; HCF 12; IU HP 12; LS 11; SG 11,12



Vasnune Norwood



Nacressa Novak
DG 9-12; DC 0fc, 12;
FP 9-12; FM 11;
FC 9-12; FC 0fc, 10-12;
KB 11,12; Revue 9-12;
SP 9-12; STAND 9;
TA 12; Thesplans 10-12;
Thesplans Ofc, 11,12;
VC 11



Loven O'Neal



Kivstyn Oliver Aktion Club 12



James Coms Jr.



Sevena Ovnelas



Movgan Ovosz



Jasmine Ortiz STAND 12; FCCLA 12; SG 12



Melanie Ortiz Aide 11, 12; NHS 12; PH 11; PM 11,12; P Ct. 11; TA 11,12; Track 10



Mallovy Parker



Marcha Parker



Payton Parker Cheerikading 12; CT 10-12; Concert Cholir 9; Football 8-12; NHS 11, 12; PM 11, 12; Payun 10-12; SC 10-12; SG 10-12; SP 11; Tal 2; TG 9-12; Track 8-12; Track Capt 12;VT 10-12; WC 11, 2



Cody Packhue



Ashley Perez PH 12; TA 12



Danielle Perry Concert Choir 9,10; Sftbl. 9



Elvenov Pevry



Joshua Perry



Michal Perry



Raya Petty BC 12; Cheerleading 9; FM 11,12; STAND 12; SADD 12; SG 9-11; SM 10,11; TC 12



Autry Phillips Band 9-12; Baseball 10,11; Swimming 10,11; TC 9-12



Kairlyn Phillips Band 9-12; Diving 10-12; Diving Capt. 11,12; FCCLA 12; MPAC 11,12; Soccer 9;



Denzel Pierce Bskt. 9; Football 9-12; Football Capt. 12; FM 12



Kevalind Pivile



Cabriela Ponce Bskt. 9; Soccer 10,11; Sftbl. 9-12; TA 12



Bvyanna Pope



Bianca Portis Cheerleading 9-12; Cheerleading Capt. 10; TA 12; Track 10,12



Maviah Portis Art Club 12; SM 10-12; TA 12



Christopher Powell



Deion Powell STAND 12



Ashayna Price



Shaina Pullun



BreAnn Pulphus SOSA 12; DC 10-12; FP 10, 11; News. 12; PM 11; PNN FS. 11; STAND 10-12; STAND Olc. 11, 12; Thespians 10-12; Poetry Slam Team 12



Evanados Quanstrom



Alex Qui jano Baseball 9-12





Bskt. 9-12; Football 12; FC 9-11 Baseball 9,10; Football 9-12; Football Capt. 12; NHS 11,12; PH 11; P Ct. 11; PK 11 SAC 11



Aide 11; FCCLA 12



Kyle Reed Football 9; STAND 12; Track 11



DC 11,12; FP 11; GA 12; NHS 10-12;



All ysa Reyes PM 12; SG Ofc. 12; TA 11; YES 11



FC 11,12; STAND 11,12; SADD 12



DT 9,10; KC 10,11; Orch. 9,10,11,12; STAND Ofc. 12; TC 9,10,12; Volleyball 9



Koilan Richards



Christian Rios







Art Club 12; Art Club Ofc. 12; GC 9-11; Orch. 9-12



STAND 11: SG 9-12:



JaQuice Robinson



Jasmine Robinson



Reginald Robinson Ju





Robert Robinson



Rebekah Rochefort





Denissa Rogers Giles FCCLA 12; KC 12; T.A. 11,12; PH 11; STAND 12; SADD 12; Track 10



Audrey Rojas



Kolan Rollins



Andre Ross Bskt. 9-12; Bskt. Capt. 9; FM 11,12; NHS 12; PH 12; P Ct. 12; STAND 12; TA 12; TC 10,11; V.O.R. 9-12; YES 11,12



Jill Ross
Art Club 12; Diving 10;
DC 10-12; DC Ofc. 11;
PNN F.S. 11,12;
Soccer 9-12; SP 10-12;
Swimming 11,12;
Swimming Capt. 12;
TA 12; Track 9



Skylav Rothgeb Bowling Team 9-12; DC 9; NHS 11,12; TA 11,12; Track 10



Jarien Rowe



Kouvtney Royste



CT 11-12; Concert Choir 10; FM 11-12; Revue 9,11; SC 10; SP 11; STAND 12; TC 9-11; Tennis 9;



breyana Russ Track 10-12



iava Russ



Kelsey Sajdera
FM 11,12; MPAC 10-12;
Golf 12; NHS 12;
NHS 016, 12; PH 12;
Swimming 9-12;
Swimming Capt. 11,12;
TA 11,12; Tennie 9, 11-12;
Tennis Capt. 12, Volleyball 9-



Obdulia Salazar



Lindsay Sandiez
Dance Team 11-12;
Dance Team Capt.11-12;
H Ct. 12; OA 9; PH 11;
Yearbook 12; YSE 12



Evan Sandifer



Note Solveder

Band 9,10; CC 10-12;
CC Capt. 11;
NHS 11,12;
Swimming 11,12;
Swimming Capt. 12;
TA 11: Track 9,11



Nichelas Schullert Bowling Team 10-12; CAD 12; Chess Club 10-12



Charity Scollen
BC 11,12;
Concert Choir 10-12;
NHS 11,12; PM 11;
STAND 11; TC 10,11;



Deanna Scott
Art Club 12; SOSA 12;
DC 10-12; FM 11;
KB 11,12; NHS 12; SBT
10; SP 11,12;
TA 11,12; Thespians 12



Thomas Sear



Erin Segrest
Concert Choir 10;
Golf 11; STAND 12;
SG 11,12; Track 11,12;
VC 9; YES 11,12



Alejandro Serrano Band 9-12; CAD 9-12; PH 12



David Servat



Brandon Sher CAD 11,12; DC 11,12; DC Olc. 12; FP 12; FM 11; KB 11,12; MPAC 11,12; NHS 12; Orchestra 9; Revue 10; SP 11,12; Tennis 9-12; Tennis Capt. 12; Thespians 12; Thespians Olc. 12



Stacey Shotwell



Jillian Simmons FP 10; Golf 12; KC 11; News. 10,12; SDT 12; Yearbook 12



SG 12



Joshua Sims Bskt. 9; FM 12; Golf 10-12;



Maximillian Skinner



Matthew Smiley



Charles Smith Band 9-12; Drumline 9; C Ofc. 9; Concert Choir FM 11,12; TA 11



Raven Smith 10; DC 12; FCCLA 12: News. 12; PM 12; SADD 12: VC 9



Golf Capt. 12; MPAC 11,12

Richard Smith DC 9-12; DC Ofc. 12; FP 10-12; KB 12; Revue 12; SP 11,12; STAND 12; SADD 12; SG 9-11; Thespians 11,12; Thespians Ofc. 12



Taylor Smith FM 12; News. 10,12; News. Ed. 12; PM 11,12; QS 11,12; SM 12; ST 10



Dance Team 9-11; GACC 11,12; Lipsync 11; Revue 10; TA 12; Track 9



Joshua Smithers Autoshop 10-12; Band 9-10; Wrestling 9,12



Raymond Snelling Jr. Bidg. Trades 11; DC 12; DC 9-11; FP 10-11; Golf 12; Mock Trial 12; KC 12; SP 9-11; TA 10 SG 12





Amber Spear DT 12; GA 9; TA 12



Rebert Spear III Autpshop 9-12; Bldg. Trades 10-12



Bianca Stewart



Marissa Stewart GACC 11,12; STAND 12; SG 12



Christopher Stojanovski



Jason Strim u Autoshop 10; CAD 9-12; NHS 11,12; Orchestra 9



Baseball 9-12





Shakelah Strong



Melanee Stubbs Bskt. 9-12; Bskt. Capt. 12; FM 11,12; HCF 12; HCQ 12; MPAC 11,12; NHS 12; NHS Ofc. 12; PM 12; Volleyball 9





Alysia Surney





Ana Tafoya





Devek Taylor Ju Bldg. Trades 11,12; Football 9-12; Wrestling 9-11



Tevry Taylor FM 12





Valimir Thomas CAD 9-10, 12







Concert Choir 11; FC 9- EC 12; SC 12; PM 10; 12; FC Ofc. 9-12; VC 9 STAND 10-12; STAND



Madeen Twado Ofc. 11,12; SADD 12



Samantha Tomb



Celby Tvanitte





Redney Trigg II Baseball 9-12; Concert Choir 10-12; FM 12; **YES 12**



Matthew Tuchy Art Club 12; Soccer 9; STAND 11,12; SM 9



Katelynn Usher Cheerleading 9-12; Cheerleading Capt. 12; Concert Choir 10;



Evika Valladares Soccer 12; Swimming 12; TA 12



Allison Vavela FM 12; PH 12; Tennis 9-12; YES 12



Rafael Vasquez



AFJROTC 12; FM 12; GA 12; Soccer 9-12;



Ronae Vickerstaff



Chess Club 11: STAND 12; WC 10-12



FM 11; FEA12; FC 10; KC 12; NHS 10-12; PH 12; PM 9-12; SDT 12; STAND 12; SADD 12; SG 12; YES 12



Brianna Walker



Desh jue Walker Autoshop 11,12; Bldg. Trades 12; Football 9; Wrestling 12



Kara Walker



Natalie Warren AA 11,12; FCCLA 11,12; Track 9-12



Kelsey Washburn Diving 9,10; FM 12; Golf 9-12: MT 12: PH 12; QS 11,12; Tennis 9,10



Kentrell Washington



Hannah Webster AA 11,12; CO 12; FM 11,12 KC 9-12; KC Ofc. 11,12; MPAC 11; PM 9-12; QS 12;



Jessica Weis



Flizabeth Weiss



Maurika Wesley



Flizabeth Wholan CT 12; Concert Choir 10,11; DC 10-12; DC Ofc. 12; FP 11; Revue 10-12; SC 12; SP 11; Thespians 10-12; VC 9; VItns. 11



Brechey White CŤ 12; Concert Choir 10-11; CC 12; FM 11-12; SC 12; STAND 12; SG 12; Track 9-12; VC 9; VT 12; Volleyball 9-11



Sftbl. 9,10; SM 10-12; ST 10.11: TA 11:

Raven White DC 12; Revue 12; STAND 12; SG 11-12; Track 12;



Alexis Wiggins



Kayla Wiggins PNN M.S. 12: PNN F.S. 12; Track 10-12; Volleyball 9,-12; SG 12



DC 9; FP 9; NHS 11-12: STAND 10,11,12; TA 11





Pantasia Williams Rendrick Williams dv. Kenosha Williams EC 11; Football 9,12;





Mary Williams



Tekcia Williams CG 9-12; FM 11-12; FEA 11-12; FEA Otc. 12; KC 11-12; STAND 11-12; STAND 0fc. 12; SG 9-12; TA 12; Yearbook 12;





Robin Williamson



Football 9-12; Track 10-11



Queonte Wilson





Rachel Withers





DeVante Wright



lvesha Wright



dames Wright Bskt. 9; C Ofc. 12; CC 10; Footbell 9; FM 11-12; MT 11-12; NHS 11-12; NHS Ofc. 12; News. 11-12; News. Ed. 12; QS 11-12; SG 11-12; SM 11; TA 12;

Track 9-10: YES 11-12



Kenneth Wright Baseball 9-12; Bskt. 9









Autoshop 9,11; Band 9-12; FEA 12; FEA Ofc. 12; Football 9



Aquilla Young DT 12; FC 12; GC 9; NHS 11-12; TA 12; Track 12



Cheerleading 9-12; News. 11-12; News. Ed. 12; TA 12; TC 10,11



Christopher



Patricia Zimmerman News. 10-12; PH 12



Brandon Smith

No Profile Pictures

Dontvell Allen Bskt. 12 Javier Avalos Soccer 9,10; Track 9: Wrestling 9-12: Wrestling Capt. 11,12 Michael Andonovski Andrew Appleton Victor Avellano Amondo Armand Chyavra Arnold Martin Arriaga Javier Avalos Karla Baker Michelle Battle Lachapelle Bradley Joseph Brignoni Brittney Britton Ja'Ouan Britton Jasmin Brooks Jon Brown Tveshia Brown Wilfred Campbell Olivia Carter Tina Clark Kimberly Climack PH 11 Rahim Conwell Mavcus Cooper-Longoria Michael Cotto Antonio Cuahuizo CAD 9-11; SG 11 Christopher Dabney Baseball 9,10; DC 9-12; FP 9-11; Revue 9,11; Thespians 9-12 Thomas Daugherty Jamie Davis Steeling Day

Jovan Dunlap Aavon DuVall Anthony Elmove Margues Elliot Chelsea Ellis Anthony Elmove Lawrence Evans Beverly Farmer-French Nicholas Feliciano Baseball 9-12 Annissa Fitzpatrick Aide 9 Anthone Frederick Megan Galavza Heather Geeze Anve Cibson Davonte Gillard Bruce Gonzalez Timothy Grayson Jr. Imavi Green Chess Club 9-12; DT 9 Andrew Gresham Andrew Griggs Acad. Spb. 10-12; HBS 11; Aide 9: QBT 12: SDT 12: SBT 10.11 Briana Hackett Kelvin Hagan Clifton Harmon III Lavante Hawkins Kaila Henderson Angela Hopkins Cheerleading 9; CC 12: Diving Capt. 11; PC 11; STAND 12; SG 11,12; Track 11,12; Y.E.S. Jamaal Jackson Mark Jakubowicz Kiara James Tarlor James Leticia Javamillo

Jordan Johnson Mawil Johnson Te'Avre Johnson Terrance Johnson Michael Joiner Jr. Glenn Jones Jr. Latuard Joseph Andrew Kapitan Clay Kendeva Reginald Kennebrew Jr. Bobby King Humphery Andrew Kina Anthony King IU HP 9-12; Aide 10-12; **STAND 9.12** Kameron Knight Jacob Kopf Kyle Kostvo Michael Koulianos Samantha Kwell Angela Ledesma Latasha Lee F.E.A. 12; FM 11, 12; KC 10; News. 11; Aide 12; PH 12; SG 9 Shakiah Lee Charlishea Leeks Concert Choir 10-12; DC 10,12; STAND 11,12; VC9 Miguel Lewis Jelani Jouis Chess Club 12; PM 9-12; STAND 9; Wrestling 9; Y.E.S 11, 12 Christopher Mabone Tamava Macklin Gia'Juana Manuel Kendvell Martin VOC 9 Nikkisha Martin VOC 9 Rodvick May

Thespians 12

Osvaldo Meza Mavina Miljus Stephanie Miller William Minaed Shamanda Moncrief Devon Moore Soccer 10; Span. C 11,12; Span. C Ofc. 11,12 Malik Muhammad Cadton Murrel III Kewon Ollie Brittany Payne Samyra Pattaway-Ben-Brittany Phillips Gabriel Pineda Demetrius Plainer Natasha Poellnitz Shaniqua Porter Andrew Posey Anxastasia Protho Luis Reves Kellie Rhodes Arthur Richards Mariah Richardson Marshawn Riley Fionne Riveva Demirial Robinson D'Jahnaba Roddy Xaviev Ruiz Attallah Sanders Matthew Saxinger Advienne Scott-Harris Anada Scott Jasmine Scott Denzel Shaw Band 9.10: Chess Club 11; DC 9-12; FP 9-11; F.C.C.L.A. 9-12; F.C.C.L.A. Ofc. 11: GC 9: Sftbl. 11; SP 9-12 DC 11,12; FP 12; KB 12; Stacey Shotwell

Alexzandria Sims Camevon M Smith Davrius Smith Evanzie Smith Cherry Sinoot Angelica Spaw Camille Starks Jeverniah Steaall Deandve Stewart Ronte' Terrell Michael Thieling Damon Thomas Raymond Thomas Airrion Tinunons Leon Tvaikovski Mariah Turner Baseball 9; Bldg. Trades 11,12 Brandon Uruzquieta Bevan Uvuzanieta Soccer 9-10, 12 Covina Vazquez Roben Ward Shy Ward Dakin Warfield Rashad Welch Cadishia Wheatley Kenshell Whisby Devante' Williams Lunden Wise



Senior Activities Key

AA- Athletic Aide Acad. Spb. - Academic Superbowl AFJROTC- Air Force Junior Aktion Club Art Club

Art Club Art Club Ofc. - Art Club Officer Autoshop Band Baseball

Baseball Capt. - Baseball Captain Bskt. - Basketball Bskt. Capt. - Basketball Captain

BC- Bible Club Bowling Team Bldg. Trades- Building Trades BPA -Business Professionals of America

CAD
Cheerleading
Cheerleading Capt. —
Cheerleading Captain
Chess Club

Class Ofc. - Class Officer CPC- Commencement Planning Committee CG- Class Government CT- Choral Teens

CG- Color Guard CG Cap. - Color Guard Captain Concert Choir C Ofc.- Class Officer

SOSA- Creative Writing Club SOSA Ofc. – Creative Writing Club Officer CC – Cross Country

CC Capt. – Cross Country Captain Dance Team Dance Team Capt. – Dance Team Captain DT- Decathlon Team

Diving
Diving Captain
DC- Drama Club
DC Ofc. -- Drama Club
Drill Team

Drill Team Drumline Drum Maj.

EC - Environmental Club EC Ofc.- Environmental Club Officer FP - Fall Play

F.E.A.- Future Educators of America
F.E.A. Ofc.- Future Educators

of America Officer F.C.C.L.A.- Family, Career & Community Leaders of America F.C.C.L.A. Ofc.- Family, Career

& Community Leaders of America Officer Football Football Capt. - Football

Football Capt. - Football Captain FC- French Club FC Ofc.- French Club Officer

FM- Freshman Mentor GA- Guidance Aide G.A.C.C. – Gary Area Career Center

Golf
Golf Capt.- Golf Captain
GC – German Club
GC Ofc. – German Club Officer

Gymnastics
H.E.R.O.- Helping Education
Reach Occupations

HCF - Homecoming Court Football

HQF - Homecoming Queen

Football
HCB- Homecoming Court
Basketball

HQB – Homecoming Queen Basketball HPB- Homecoming Princess Basketball

HGS – Hoosier Girls State
HBS- Hoosier Boys State
IU HP- IU Honors Program
Jazz Imp.- Jazz Impressions

Jazz Band
J.E.T.S. – Junior Engineering
Technical Society

KC – Key Club
KC Ofc. – Key Club Officer
KB- Kids on the Block

KB- Kids on the Block
LS- Lip Sync
MB - Marine Biology
MPAC- Merrillville Pirate

MPAC- Merrillville Pirate
Athletic Council
MT- Mock Trial
N.H.S. – National Honor

Society
N.H.S. Ofc. – National Honor

Society Officer
NFT- National French Test
NST - National Spanish Test

NGT – National German Test NH – Natural Helpers News. – Newspaper News. Ed. – Newspaper Editor News. E.I.C.- Newspaper

k. Ed. – Newspaper Editol ws. E.I.C.- Newspaper Editor-In-Chief OA – Office Aide

OA – Office Aide Orch. – Orchestra PH – Peer Helper PM – Peer Mediator Plan.- Planetarium

PNN M.S. – PNN Morning Show PNN F.S. – PNN Friday Show Prsmn. – Pressman PC – Prom Committee Poetry Slam Team-Poetry Slam

Team
P Ct. – Prom Court
PK- Prom King
PQ – Prom Queen
QS – Quill and Scroll

QS Off. – Quill and Scroll Officer QBT – Quiz Bowl Team

Revue
RC -- Russian Club
RC Ofc. -- Russian Club Officer
SO -- Science Olympiad

SO – Science Olympiad SVE – Senior Video Editor SC – Show Choir Soccer

Soccer Capt. - Soccer Captain Sftbl. - Softball Sftbl. Capt. - Softball Captain Span.C - Spanish Club Span.C Ofc. - Spanish Club

Officer SO- Special Olympics SDT- Speech and Debate Team SBT- Spell Bowl Team

SP – Spring Play STAND- Socially Together and Naturally Diverse STAND Ofc.- STAND Officer SAC – Student Advisory

Committee
S.A.D.D. – Students Against
Destructive Decisions
S.A.D.D. Ofc. – Students
Against Destructive Decisions

Officer SG- Student Government SM – Student Manager ST -Student Trainer SB - Super Bowl Swimming Swimming Capt. – Swimming

Captain
TA – Teacher Aide
TC –Teens for Christ

Tennis
Tennis Capt. –Tennis Captain
Thespians
Thespians

Thespians Ofc. -Thespians Officer Track

Track Capt. --Track Captain VC --Varsity Choir VDDQ --Valentine's Day Dance

Queen
Vitns. – Velveteens
VT- Vocal Teens
V.O.R.- Voices of Reason
Volleyball

Volleyball
Volleyball Capt. -Volleyball
Captain
WC -Weightlifting Competition

WCC -Weightlifting Competition Champion Wrestling Wrestling Capt. -Wrestling

Wrestling Capt. –Wrestling Captain WDL –Winter Drum Line

WDL -Winter Drum Line WG -Winter Guard Yearbook YE -Yearbook Editor

YSE -Yearbook Section Editor Y.E.S.- Youth Enriched by Service



Notes

Bianca Cardenas Trying to be as unique as I

Pages

Albums

academic clubs 66 teachers 68 unique classes 70

Wall



Erick Acosta

Tomorrow is Friday and last day for ECA!!! hahaha:
D Thank GOD!!!



Casey Fejes

I like how I'm doing Rachel Robertson's homework over skype. :P



Kara Phillips

I meant to start on all these finals packets 2 hours ago, thanks facebook



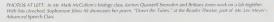
Rachel Withers

I can't concentrate on this homework - -



Alexis Alexander

I HATE PRANK CALLERS!!! Some people have school in the morning and care about sleeping so stop calling at like midnight and close to one in the morning.





Academics in action

Nine members of the Academic Decathlon team began studying the second week of school, meeting twice a week for an hour each time. "Since we made the state finals, we continued to practice all the way through February," Coach Jason Sonnenberg said.

Their season ended at the state finals when they finished eighth in the state of Indiana for the second year in a row.

"The highlight of the year was the Area Competition at Hammond Gavit," Sonnenberg said, "when we won 23 individual awards, with Senior Andrew Griggs winning the overall score for all 10 events for his division."

At their first competition at LaPorte, the team had four

individual winners, with each winning at least two ribbons. At the Area Competition at Hammond Gavit High School, the team finished in second place in the Large School Division. Many team members won multiple awards.

At the state finals at Purdue University in February, Senior Andrew Griggs won three silver medals.

Spell Bowl team members had their own set of challenges. Armed with a list of 3500 words to learn, team members set out to memorize words like "acquiescent" and "synecdoche." Their knowledge of etymology was sure to help them place third at the DAC invitational.



In her classroom, Mrs. Evelyn Steiner teaches Spanish and French. After school, she coaches two academic teams.

When Mrs. Evelyn Steiner retires in 2011, she will be capping off a 24-year stint as a world languages teacher and a coach of academic teams.

"The challenge has always been to find students who have time, students who aren't in sports or who work," Steiner said.

For the Super Bowl team, the work for Steiner starts

well before she has any members.

"This year has been kind of fun for me," she said. "This year it's Latin America, and I know a little about that culture."

She said she invests hours prepping herself in the literature of the culture designated for the competition in order to coach students in English and fine arts. She often called on English teachers to help.

"I always have fun, though, because it's enjoyable to work with students who love the subject and want to learn more," she said.

"These kids are willing to spend extra time," she said of her teams. "They love what they are learning."

The teams become like a family because they make

connections with each other outside a regular classroom

And winning it all is less important than the journey

"Sure, it's nice to win." she said, "but other things are more important. The preparation and learning that occurs as they are preparing for the competition is more important."

"Even if they don't win, they are winners," she said.

Quiz Bowl

Jason Sonnenberg, Coach

Front row: Lauren Carniello, Sarah Dora, Caleb Sanchez, Ana Adame; Back row: Mansoor Arifee, Jacob Swierc, Alex Swierc, Joseph Witkowski, Mr. Sonnenberg.





Spell Bowl

Evelyn Steiner, Coach

Front row: Allison Gronli, Emma Bice, Sarah Dora, Rebecca Broom; Second row: Caleb Sanchez, Ana Adame, Mrs. Steiner; Back row: Jacob Swierc, Alex Swierc, Joseph Witkowski, Mansoor Arifee.



Academic Decathlon

Rachel Sonnenberg, Jason Sonnenberg, Coaches Front row: Aquilla Young, Brooklyn Russell, Jacob Swierc; Second row: Christopher Huley, Joseph Witkowski, Matthew Flores; Back row: Mrs. Sonnenberg, Mr. Sonnenberg.



Evelyn Steiner, Coach

Fron't row: Allison Gronli, Emma Bice, Kelli Chavez, Conrad Czosnyka, Ana Adame; Second row: Mansoor Arifee, Francis Dusik, Ashley Jamerson, Mrs. Steiner; Back row: Alex Swierc, Jacob Swierc, Joseph Wilkowski.



teachers

make classrooms come alive

They lecture, grade term papers, quizzes and tests and hand out homework assignments. Teachers also spend hours with students involved in extracurricular activities and sports.

"My first objective is to make the class smile by telling a joke or simply asking about something that I know that many students would be interested in," social studies teacher Mr. Michael Knocke said.

Once he has the students' attention, he shifts gears to the day's lesson.

"I try to involve multiple tasks in every class period because I have learned through experience that many students have trouble staying focused for longer than 30 minutes," he said. Group activities also help create a positive learning environment in his US history class.

A teacher for six years, Knocke also serves as the sponsor for Student Government and Youth Enriched by Service (YES). Each evening, he works with students in Alternative School.

Science teacher Mr. Mark McCullom also works to create a comfortable learning environment.

"I want them to walk into an environment in which they feel relaxed and confident," Mr. McCullom said. "I like making science more fun and exciting for my students."

Physical education teacher and girls' tennis coach Kyle Prow also tries to show students the fun side of physical education and health.

"I really like showing students that health and physical education can be beneficial and fun at the same time," Mr. Prow said.

Now in his second year of teaching, Mr. Prow incorporates different games, such as Jeopardy, and plays review games with his health classes.

"For PE, I like to organize different challenges that bring everybody on to the same level," he said. "Playing scooter soccer is a fun one. Lacrosse is a fun activity that students rarely to never play."

While students are running around the track, Mr. Prow encourages them to run with a partner or a group so that they can get a conversation going.

"I stand on the track and high-five every one of them when they come around," he said. "It gives them a sense of accomplishment and I can give them positive encouragement better that way."

Teachers often leave a positive influence on students that may carry into adulthood.

Science teacher for six years, Mr. Dave Hinkel, said one teacher influenced the career he has chosen today.

"I had a good professor in college," Hinkel said, "that made science interesting and made me look deeper into it."

"While students work hard, they often need encouragement to keep going," Coach Kyle Prov said. He gives a high-five to Senior Allison Varela as she completes her mile run as part of her conditioning for the spring tennis team.







While working on their lab, Juniors Charles Pickett and Chaloni Walker receive help from Mr. Mark McCullom. "Talking them through their work helps them to understand it better." Mr. McCullom said.

What is the most rewarding part of teaching?



The relationships I build with students and the opportunity to see them succeed. Years later, when I run into former students, I am amazed at the impact I had on them. Mrs. Nancy Draper



Knowing that I'm helping students become bette productive students.



Watching my students grow from freshmen to seniors and even beyond, and seeing them come back as successful adults. Mr. Jeff Yelton





After a 15-year hiatus, Mr. James Simon took up the frumpet again, this time with the Pirate Pep Band. "I was a jazz trumpet major at U. I 've been playing trumpet since 1981 and piano before then," Simon said. Simon played in pep bands, marching bands, concert bands, orchestras, birass quintets, jazz combos, and he even had to wear tights once to play at a Renaissance Fair. Simon said he practices whatever tunes Band Director Mark Danielson calls to "miniture my mistakes during the game."

What do students find fascinating in your dassvoom?



PNN is a great class because it enables students to use different levels of creativity. For students who enjoy creative writing, they dream up stories for skits. News oriented students come up with strategies to report. Other students enjoy the technical aspects of putting story together, adding speal effects and/or music. PNN Director Brain Past



That they can take what they've leamed and use it later in their lives. Auto Shop teacher James Johnston



That they can take something they've learned from the class and use it to make something creative and different. Art teacher Sarah Kennedy

In Ms. Carol Von Behren's
Advanced Cake Decorating class,
Senior Sara Koeppl ices cookies
that will be taken to Pierce Middle
School. Students visit Pierce each
spring to teach eighth graders
decorating techniques and to recruit
them to take foods classes.









Working under his car in Auto Shop class, Senior Joshua Smithers pulls out a transmission to fix. Smithers has been taking power mechanic classes since his freshman year. "I have been working on cars with my dad since I have been five," said Smithers.





English and math teachers may disagree, but students have found that there's more to academics than reading, writing and arithmetic. Many students delve into the Course Guide published by the Guidance Department each year and find interesting electives.

"I think most students take some classes out of curiosity," art teacher Sarah Kennedy said.

The English Department offers students an opportunity to read teen novels.

"The biggest benefit to taking the Young Adult Novel class is that it allows students to read books that they can really relate to and identify with because the themes of the books are universal," English teacher Mrs. Carrie Bedwell said. "Most students who take the class enjoy reading and discussing novels, which creates a fun classroom atmosphere."

Mrs. Bedwell noted that students read quite a bit in class, and said students have found that they put just as much time and effort into homework for YAN as they do in other Enclish classes.

"There is a misconception that the class is an "easy A", which it is not," she said.

She said she hopes to offer a YAN II class during the 2012-13 school year.

The world languages classes offer students an opportunity to explore the cultures of the world. Each year, Mrs. Evelyn Steiner and Ms. Irene Spiro take their students to Mexican and French restaurants as part of their curriculum.

"They had to order in Spanish and speak Spanish with the waiters. The waiters really enjoyed that and teased the students," Mrs. Steiner said.

Mrs. Steiner has taught both Spanish and French for 24 years at MHS, and she has taken four trips to Spain with students.

"The purpose of the field trip was to expose the students to authentic Mexican food and give them an opportunity to use their Spanish with native speakers," Mrs. Steiner said. "Mexican music was playing the entire time, and there are murals on the walls depicting Mexican history."

Elective classes

expand student horizons



To prepare to write a research paper over issues affecting teens, Sophomore Chardaray Smith reviews her outline for the Young Adult Novels class. "Students read six novels during the trimester, and the research paper topics were present in the books read for the class," English teacher Mrs. Carrie Bedwell said. Sophomores Tracie Martin and Khalil James joined in the term paper discussion.





Groups

Adrian Weaver Well... two days until opening night, everythings comin together GREAT! This feeling makes all the long rehearsals, tears, and stress worth it

Pages

Albums

clubs	74
sports	92
performing arts	136



Anjelica Peppers

Game tonight... Wrestling meet and game tomorrow. What a nce weekend... Good Luck to my lady pirates & the boys wrestling and basketball team.



Jordan Burton

Go MHS chior great job!



Adrian Weaver

Just got done promoting the heck outta phantom at old chicago and EVERYBODY was excited about gettin a chance to finally see the show or comin to see it again



Allison Varela

Plymouth bound. . . lets go girls



Brandon Oliver

lost 10 to 9, but we got Laporte Thrusday at home so come out and support.



PHOTOS ON LEFT: At a basketball game at Crown Point High School, Seniors Brandon Clark, Brandon Smith, Jeremiah Jones and Junior Edward Seay Jr. confer with their coach, Jim East, who retired this year. In May, the Freshman Lecture Hall became a courtroom as Judge Mike Barnes, Chief Judge Margaret Robb and Judge Terry Crone from the Indiana Court of Appeals hear a case regarding the theft of a trademark.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Students get involved

in community activities

Student Government promotes student leadership and helps students become more involved in their school and community.

Projects include an environmental assignment, donating 2,000 canned food items during Thanksgiving to the needy and donating \$800 to Riley Children's Hospital from the Crush can fundraiser. Members also sponsor the Fall Homecoming Spirit Week, Parade, Goofy Games and Dance.

Student Government Officers Michael Knocke, Sponsor

Front row: Osha Brownlee, Kara Walker, Latoya Moore; Back row: Shaquille Cauley, Mr. Knocke, Christopher Huley.



For this year's Angel Tree Project, Senior Brechey White wraps gilts that classes collected for needy kids. "The best part of participating in the Angel Tree is getting all the presents together and making the little kids happy for Christmas," White said.





Class of 2012 Alan Mizimakoski, Teresa Procter, Sponsors Mansoor Arifee, Lauren Carniello, Spree Lang, Samuel Gubitz



Class of 2013 Nick Petralia, Dan Schoon, Sponsors Brianne Baylor, Jibria Ali, Marissa Taylor, Nykia Lewis.



Class of 2014

Jermece Williamson, Christine Kibler-Wheeler, Sponsors Kiera Shackelford, Kennedy Wilck, Jazmin Garcia.



Student Government

Michael Knocke, Sponsor

Front row: Christopher Huley, Kara Walker, Shaquille Cauley, Osha Browniee, Latoya Moore; Second row: Rebekkah Kimni, Alexis Traylor, Lauren Carniello, D'Shae Brown, Erin Segrest, Lauren Bistriican, Jasmine Ortiz, Ka'Kisha Daniel, Raven White; Third row: Dennetria Downing, Rosalind Pirtle, Maurisha Lord, Angela Hopkins, Julie Ross, Ken Davis, Ankobia Ruth; Back row: Kendrick Williams, Latasha Lee, Christopher Turner, James Wright, Kayla Winggins, Mr. Knocke.



FCCLA



Preparing for the Blood Drive, Senior Natalie Warren, Junior Sabrina Abrams and Senior Nichole Shearer make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches as a snack for those who donate. "The Blood Drive is a wonderful idea. Every one donation can help save three lives," said Abrams. FCCLA also participates in a district conference every winter with schools from surrounding areas.

Reaching out to help others

Family, Community, Career Leaders of America is a community service and leadership development organization. It is designed to build leadership skills and allow community outreach.

This past year, they gave to the elderly during the Christmas and Easter holidays, held two Blood Drives and hosted two dances, the Inclusion Dance for special education students and the Freshman-Sophomore Spring Formal.



Family, Community, Career Leaders of America

Carol Von Behren, Sponsor

Front row. Lauren Smith, Jasmine Reed. Sherese Hopson, Sabrina Abrams, Ana Bellman, Kimberly Tapper, Second row: Ms. Von Behren, Jasmine Ortiz, Jessica Reed, India Taylor, Raven Smith; Third row: Nichole Shaeare, Camille Starks, Christa Flores, Kenshell Whisby Ka'Kisha Daniel, Back row: Latasha Lee, Justyn Adams, Morgan Gunn, Tillary Lee.

KEY CLUB



For three years, Nick Petralia has been attending the annual Chili Cook-off. "Every year, there's a lot of good stuff. There's a variety of people with good chili," Petralia said. About 250 people attended, and \$4,300 was raised for the Lupus Foundation.

Reaching out

to the community

Community service programs to help better the community are the focus of Key Club, and they have earned the MHS chapter two international awards for their work. Members have earned the Diamond Honors. which is the highest honor for Key Club. The 20 members have helped to serve food in a local soup kitchen and to read to young children in elementary schools. Two major events sponsored by Key Club, the Kids' Carnival and Chili Cook-off help raise money for donations for charity. In the fall, members raised \$250 each for the Hobart Humane Society and the MHS Unknown Friends fund for students in need. More than \$1,500 was raised by the MHS family for the Lupus Foundation with the Chili Cook-off.

Sophomore Julie Ross sells raffle tickets to math teacher Kira Healy during the annual Kids' Carnival sponsored by Key Club. This year, they raised \$500 for local charities.



Expression with the help of Permanent Ink

Permanent Ink, the poetry slam team, gives its participants opportunities to express themselves in front of others and learn to handle peer pressure, increase memory skills and make friends.

Student work was "not just written down, but appreciated by friends and family," sponsor Dave Hossler said.

Hossler noted that he enjoys performing and being around creative people.

In its first official year, the Varsity group went to Chicago for the first competition, "Louder Than a Bomb." Permanent Ink was the only new team to advance to the semi-finals.

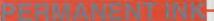
To prepare, the team



Permanent Ink

Dave Hossler, Sponsor

Front ow: Charlishea Leeks, Che'la McClain, Natasha Poelinitz, Lekisha Patterson; Second row: Alva Wilson, Dojshana Smith-Washington, Samyrii Pettaway-Benson, Maurisha Lord, Brandon Neal; Back row: Demetrius Amparan, Taylor Haynes, Trey Vonn Washington, Steven Reed, Mr. Hossler.









Key Club Carrie Bedwell, Sponsor Front row: Hannah Webster, Latonya Harrison, Katy Guzek, Rachel Humes; Second row: Lauren Bistrican, Julie Ross; Back row: Elizabeth Long, Ken Davis.

Supporting diversity through service

Influencing diversity and community service are two of the many purposes of STAND. Members also sponsor the Martin Luther King Day Brunch, mentor students and visit other schools to promote friendship.

Danny Lackey's favorite part of being the adviser is "being in the middle of a heated discussion." STAND's leaders are Reggie Robinson, director of leadership; Marleen Tirado, director of cultural affairs; Mary Williams, director of activities; Te'Keia Williams, director of school affairs; Jose Gonzalez, director of community service; and BreAnn Pulphus, director of alumni relations.



Before going on stage to recite her poem, "Permanent," Senior Natasha Poellnitz takes a few minutes to rehearse. "I like being on the poetry slam team because it feels good to get my words out and be heard," Poellnitz said. Poellnitz presented her poem during the Coffeehouse sponsored by STAND.



Socially Together and Naturally Diverse

Danny Lackey, Sponsor Front row: Brianna Walker. Cameron Boone, BreAnn Pulphus, Kiera Shackelford, Kiarra Johnson; Second row: LaShiona Young. Dyamond Cooper, Bria Brumfield, Alvssa Ross, Hannah Villarreal, Tia Rucker, Darien King, Susana Tirado, Mary Williams, Jasmine Lilia: Third row: Stephanie Miller, Marleen Tirado, Caitlynn Anderson, Te'Keia Williams, LaVontecia Gist, Cassandra Govert, Avianna Villarreal, Elizabeth Long, Maurisha Lord, Charlishea Leeks; Fourth row: Ka'Kisha Daniel, Raya Petty, Jalisa Mosley, Jose Gonzalez, Keith Yockev, Ankobia Ruth, Reginald Robinson, Jeremy Villarreal.





Youth Enriched by Service

Michael Knocke, Sponsor

Front row: Jazmin Jones, Rebekkah Kimani, Erin Segrest, Alyssa Ross, Kara Walker, Brianna Reves; Second row: Raven White, Demetria Downing, Rosalind Pirtle, LaToya Moore, Angela Hopkins, Third row: Alexx Wright, Christopher Huley, Alva Wilson, Latasha Lee; Back row: Andre' Ross, James Wright, Mr. Knocke.

Students say 'yes' to YES

YES members are students who are committed to helping and serving their community.

Sponsor Michael Knocke works with the group as they sponsor projects to provide clothing for children in need and for underprivileged men. They have also sponsored the Mitten Tree Project during the holidays and the Rotary Easter Egg Hunt in Crown Point.

Mr. Knocke said the group was started by graduate Cha'yra Eddie and Senior Andre Ross during the 2009-10 school year.

"They needed a sponsor to help keep the group together," Knocke said. "And I thought, what better way to get involved in the community than through

YES members meet on Thursdays to discuss future projects as well as fundraisers to raise money in order to help fund research for harmful diseases such as leukemia and cystic fibrosis.

There are 15 members in the club, but they are always looking for new members.



At Stardust Bowl in Merrillville, Superintendent Dr. Tony Lux and English teacher Debra Monix participate in the fifth annual Bowl for Kids sponsored by Future Educators of America. Dr. Lux bowled on Andy Nicksch's team "We will be able to give out about three scholarships to graduating MHS seniors," FEA sponsor Heidi Dulla said.

Future educators explore college options

Heidi Dulla, current head of Future Educators of America, explained that the purpose of this club is to "get students to know colleges and get them to want to go to college."

FEA is generally open to any student who wants to go to college or learn more about them.

To join, a student must contact the president of FEA or Dulla.

"This year's club activity is a lot better, running way smoother, and more college visits are being conducted as well as more activities overall," Dulla said.



Future Educators of America

Heidi Dulla, Sponsor

Front row: Jessica Flores, Marissa Mongold, Brianna Walker; Second rov Christa Flores, Francesca Bricker, Ana Hernandez, Heidi Dulla Not pictured: Stephanie Ferrell, Malcolm Pitts, Katelyn Haddaway.

Promoting positive decision-making

"The Candlelight Walk for Red Ribbon Week was very nowerful," sponsor Carrie Bedwell said. It had a very influential impact on those who attended. SADD has promoted activities during Red Ribbon Week and held an anti-drinking-and-driving movement around prom. The club promotes positive decision-making throughout the school as well as the community. SADD meets on the second Tuesday of every month.



Students Against Destructive Decisions Carrie Bedwell, Sponsor Raven Smith, Lauren Smith,



To raise money for the special needs department, National Honor Society member Senior Lea Neligan (center) asked Seniors Eleny Babilonia and Roy Arambula to participate in the Walk-a-thon in the fall. Members and their friends collected \$1,700 in donations.



National Honor Society

Patrice Weil, Sponsor

Front row: Aquilla Young, Brianna Walker, Kelli Chavez, Lea Neligan, Kelseys Sqifera, Charily Scollon; Second row: Alyson Austin, Meredith Dobes, Daniella Douglas, Bryce Williams, Francis Dusik, Melanie Ortiz; Third row: Cryde Bryc, III, Joseph Blockson, Samantha Bailey, Ashley Jamerson, Jeremy Villiarneal, Mrs. Well; Back row: Melanee Slubbs, Andre' Ross, Kyle Schroeder, Jacob Caddick, Kevin Caruana, Christian Frink, James Wirjsh.

Service is key for NHS members

Members of the National Honor Society help other organizations, tutor students, help disabled adults and more. NHS students must have a 3.6 GPA, good character, leadership skills and involvment in afterschool activities. Members raised money for Camp Horizon, a camp for disabled adults, and sponsored various fundraising events to help pay for the annual Roots & Wings Dinner for the top 10 seniors.

Voices of Reason

Raising voices in song

Singing and more singing. That's what the Voices of Reason members do.

"The mission is to inspire students and everyone around them," Sponsor Ms. Jermece Williamson said.

To be in the group, students must be able to sing and be dedicated to being a member.

Members performed at the annual Martin Luther King Day Brunch sponsored by STAND. They also cosponsored a fundraiser with YES

"The fundraiser at Culver's was a great success," Junior Jasmine Jones said. "We partnered with Youth Enriched by Service to raise money for cystic fibrosis. We raised \$200 to go to the foundation."



During a prayer breakfast at First Baptist Church in Gary, Voices of Reason director Ms. Jermece Williamson leads the group in a song. "We sing inspirational music as well as gospel," Junior Jasmine Jones said.

Voices of Reason

Jemece Williamson, Sponsor Front row: Demesha Kelly, Jazmin Jones, Alyssa Ross, Tia Rucker, Second row: Mejan Wilkerson, Raven White, Waymon Cruse, E'laija Mayo, Ms. Williamson; Back row: Sebastian Arreola, Brandon Wright, Andre' Ross, Raelyn Purham, Samuel Blockson.



Showcasing students' writing talents

By bringing in over 100 people, the open-mic nights are a huge success for the Society of Student Authors.

SOSA is led by English teacher Mrs. Melissa Sickinger, who started advising the group in 2003. SOSA's goal is to improve creativity in writing for students.

"This club benefits the school because it shows the writing talent of students that many people don't know we have," said Mrs. Sickinger. The group holds monthly meetings and sponsors open-mic nights.

There are 10 student writers in the club, yet Mrs. Sickinger still looks for new members. They meet the first Tuesday of every month.



Society of Student Authors Melissa Sickinger, Sponsor

Front row: Morgan Martin, Heather Mihal, Alva Wilson, BreAnn Pulphus; Second row: Mrs. Sickinger, Alyson Austin, Natasha Poellnitz.







After the tournaments, members still met after school to play chess. Senior Jacob Boyd plays a game with Student Teacher Mr. Brian Harrigan as Mr. Sean Meagher watches.

Chess Club

Sean Meagher, Sponsor Front row: Shannon Thurson, Antoine Gregory Jr, Dennis Dombrowski; Second row: Mr. Meagher, David Rodriguez, Alexander Luna, Nicholas Schuffert: Back row: Joshua Melvin, Corey Weatherspoon, Joshua Nevins-

Pawn pushers Both novices and

experienced players meet each week in the Chess Club.

"Playing chess helps them learn analytical techniques, which in some classes is necessary, but a hard concept to teach," Sponsor Mr. Sean Meagher said.

Mr. Meagher formed the club two years ago. "I had students tell me that they were interested in chess," he said. Meagher said playing chess helps students plan and think more effectively about their work. "It allows students to have fun, while learning a game they can play their whole lives," he

Two members, Senior Kenjiro Nangin and Sophomore Joshua Haynes, qualified for the state tournament and placed 10th.



Speech and Debate Team Alan Mizimakoski, Sponsor

Front row: Lauren Harding, Jibria Ali, Nykia Lewis; Back row: Mr.

Mizimakoski. Not pictured: Brianne Baylor.

Debate Team stages a comeback

First-year teacher Mr. Alan Mizimakoski sponsored the Speech and Debate Team. Members learn to write effectively, complete research, present information and use common courtesy.

"So far, just this year, the four students have became more of a family-like team." Mr. Mizimakoski said.

This growing club had 15 students on the waiting list to join; however, it may not be as easy as it sounds.

"It's definitely worthwhile", said Mr. Mizimakoski.

Speech and Debate members meet twice a week and work for about two hours each meeting.

Debate

Freshman Mentors



Freshman Mentors

Christine Kibler-Wheeler, Sponsor

Front row: Alyssa Nymeyer, Lauren Carniello, Kayla Washington, Michael Dicken, Rachel Walton, Jory Cunningham, Tianna Williams, Mia Patikas, Inesha Smith, Hannah Webster, Caitlynn Anderson, Jalisa Mosley, Aurielle Carson, Teannah Taylor, Jeremiah Jones; Second row: Kaile Domikatis, Ana Adame, Taylor Carter, Te Kiea Williams, Brechey White, Jazmin Jones, MacKenzie Milon, Amanda Banashak, Lauren Blackwell, Alexis Taylor, Brei Murph, Donneisha Owens, Kourtney Berny: Third row: Raven Saawedra, Katelynn Sobieski, Myriam Sanchez, April Bailey, Melissa Eggleston, Kayla Greene, Alyssa Ross, Robin Williamson, Taylar Worrell, Andre Ross; Fourth row: Kelli Chavez, Shaunice Holbrook, Christian Frink, Melanee Stubbs, Melor Ortiz, Latsha Lee, David Jordan, Keley Washburn, Kelsey Sajdera, Mrs. Wheeler, Reginald Robinson Ir., James Wright, Tia Rucker, Aften Sims; Fifth row: Malik Muhammad, Ashley Jamerson, Charles Smith, Alejandra Mata, Leticia Ontiveros, Candice Lambert, Lauren Lambert, Ashley Williams, Hirut Crawford-Taylor, Ka'kisha Daniel, Jeremy Gaham; Sixth row: Leonard Mathews II, Kimberly Tapper, Lavlontecia Gist, Jorien King, Cheles allis, Myeasha Brown, Robert Borison, Denzel Pierce, Megan Dicken, Alexandra Domoras, Raya Petty, Taylor Smith; Seventh row: Rebekka Kimani, Andrew King, Elbryn Goode, Tyler Kepchar, Julius Cameron, Jonathan Floyd, Christopher Huley, Victoria Verduzco, Ana Bellman, Terry Taylor, Back row: Allyiah Williams, Jasmine Washington, Taishe Abrams, Loren O'Neal, Michael Gills Darnyl Peppers, Briam Walker, Kodney Trigg II.

Mentors help freshmen get off to good start

The purpose of having Freshman Mentors is to make sure that all freshmen are provided with the necessary information that can help them be successful throughout their high school careers.

"Our mission is to make sure that all freshmen get off to a good start with high school so they can be successful students," Sponsor Mrs. Christine Wheeler said.

First, the mentors are interviewed, and once chosen, they must attend a summer camp

where they are trained to be a mentor.

After the summer training, the memors are also trained in leading the freshman seminars. During these seminars, the mentors and freshmen discuss a variety of topics, such as getting involved in school and activities, being able to resolve conflict successfully and calculating GPA.

The highlights of the year were the tailgate at the beginning of the year and the Freshman Celebration at the end of the year.



Peer Helpers Grace DeWald, Sponsor Latasha Lee, Stephanie Miller.

Helping others

through talk, action

With a group of 36 members. the Peer Helpers have a mission to show students how to help others through conversations, actions and follow-up.

Guidance counselor Ms. Grace DeWald is the sponsor.

Meetings are more individual than as a group. During most school days, some of the Peer Helpers meet with Ms. DeWald, but, as a group, they meet week

MPAC



Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council

Janis Qualizza, Sponsor Front row: Katelynn Usher, Lauren Carniello, Kelsey Sajdera, Brechey White. Victoria Collins, Valerie Bly; Second row: Arlen Sims, Mansoor Anfee, Kaitlyn Phillips, Francis Dusik, Brandon Shea, Darren Blaylock: Third row: Jeanette Burbage, Peter Berlanga, Melanee Stubbs, Taishe Abrams, Ashley Jamerson, Natieka Mathews; Back row: Jacob Caddick, Denzel Pierce, Payton Parker, Koutney Berry, Caleb Pirtle, John Mosley.



MPAC unites team leaders

To promote leadership among players and fans and to enhance the leadership skills of its members are the goals of the Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council.

Each of the 21 sports teams is represented by two team members.

MPAC members participated in the Homecoming parade and read sportsmanship promotions before the home basketball games.

This year, after a record number of students attended the Fall Homecoming dance, MPAC sponsored Winter Homecoming events.

Each class chose a queen or princess, and the boys' basketball team chose Senior Jeremiah Jones as Mr. Basketball. The week ended with a dance in the Hall of Flags.

At a home basketball game, Junior Megan Dicken and Senior Valerie Bly give a speech about the importance of sportsmanship, Athletic director Janice Qualizza requires that every MPAC member give a speech about sportsmanship and respect toward the players, coaches and officials before every boys' and girls' basketball game. "The speech is important to me because I do believe people should have good sportsmanship and etiquette," Dicken said.



Peer Mediation

Veronica Maldonado, Sponsor Front row: Mrs. Maldonado, B

Front row: Mrs. Maldonado, Brianna Walker, Rashonda Brooks; Second row: Melanie Ortiz, Davonna Witherspoon, Raven Smith, Lauren Blackwell; Back row: Hannah Webster, Melanee Stubbs, Christian Frink, Aurielle Carson.

Helping solve disputes peacefully

Peer Mediation is a service club based on "helping other students solve their own problems in a mature and respectful matter," said Sponsor Mrs. Veronica Maldonado.

Each mediator goes through special training that teaches different problem-solving techniques.

During training, every mediator is also trained in what to do when problems are too big for students to handle.

The goal is to get students to work out problems without getting administrators involved. Students fill out request forms for mediations, and after both sides agree to work out their issue, the mediator is called.

Peer Mediators

Drama Club Thespians

To prepare for the May presentation of "It's Not You, It's Me," Senior Deanna Scott rehearses lines with Senior Roy Arambula. The play, which deals with high school relationships and break ups, is "really furiny, and there are a lot of good lines," Scott said. Scott said she loves acting. "get credit for a class, and I'm able to to something !

enjoy," Scott said.

In the Theatre Production class, Junior Jasmine

Washington and Senior director Russel Cole Il show their approval for an act from "It's Not You, It's Me." Cole said five years of acting experience allows him to be a better director. "The most challenging aspect of directing is getting people to respect your opinion," he said. Cole prefers to direct beause he gets to sit back and "actually see the show."



Steve Elser, Director Front row: Megan Austin, Kaitlin Grzybowski, Samantha Balash, Sarah Dora, Josalvn Rivera, Mya Mayfield, Taylor Carter, Marissa Novak: Second row: Hannah Bailey, LaVontecia Gist, Heather Mihal, Alyson Austin, Deanna Scott, Lea Neligan, Mariah Trigg, Gloria Graham; Third row: Erika Erskine, Russell Cole II, Brandon Shea, William Akins III. Imani Shelby, Roy Arambula, Victor Rios; Back row: Joshua Melvin, Richard Smith, Kayla Greene, Elizabeth Whelan, Travante' Cooper, Mr. Elser. Not pictured: Kathleen Murphy, Shaina Pullum, Christian Frink.



Drama Club

Steve Elser, Director Front row: Thomas Novak Jr, Kaitlin Grzybowski, Samantha Balash, Sarah Dora, Josalyn Rivera, Mya Mayfield, Taylor Carter, Marissa Novak: Second row: Erika Erskine, Raven Smith, LaVontecia Gist, Heather Mihal, Alyson Austin, Deanna Scott, Lea Neligan, Mariah Trigg, Gloria Graham; Third row: Megan Austin, Russell Cole II, Brandon Shea, William Akins III, Hollvann Erskine, Imani Shelby, Roy Arambula, Victor Rios; Back row: Joshua Melvin, Richard Smith, Kevin Caruana, Kayla Greene, John Irak IV. Elizabeth Whelan, Travante' Cooper, Mr. Elser. Not pictured: Kathleen Murphy, Shaina Pullum, Hannah Graham, Christian Frink.



Choirs



Advanced Choir

Melinda Reinhart, Director Front row: Taylor Carter, Sarah Barnard, Matthew Fayson, Jurrae' Jones, Payton Parker, Adrian Weaver, Stormie Schilling. Shaunice Holbrook; Second row: Brechey White, Kandice Nicholson, Chardonnav Balkcom, Russell Cole II, Alexx Wright, Jamaal Jackson, Victor Rios, Mary Williams, Tianna Williams; Third row: Mariah Trigg, Dakota Pitts, Stephanie Barnard, Adonis Smith, Erik White, Bryanna Pope, Tia Rucker, Shy'Ora Tolbert; Back row: Elizabeth Whelan, Erika Erskine, Jaleesa Holmes, Patricia Spikes, Caitlynn Anderson, Melody Harris.



Intermediate Choir

Melinda Reinhart, Director Front row: Kierstyn Hartlerode, Salena Pena, Micah Thornton, Kayla Tyson, Andrea Reed, Dana Collins, Jazmin Jones; Second row: Roben Ward, Bria Brumfield, Charity Scollon, Rai Pearson, Che'la McClain, Charlishea Leeks, Zhanique Hudson, Emily Rocha, Tatiana Ruiz: Third row: Jasmine Johnson, Brianna Fotinos, Victoria Collins, Aaliyah Harmon, Ashanti Gray, Antionique Rooks, Hannah Bailey, Carlyn Jones, Arrisa Allen, Daryl Toneff; Fourth row: Elizabeth Long, Dionna Witherspoon, Breeana Adenivi, Mallory Parker, Christina Davies, Dominique Decurla, Tia Harris, Jayla Haymes; Back row: Devon Reed, Rodney Trigg II, Cornell Tucker III, Dayshon Rainey, Khari Reed, Steven Mcgee, Lenzie Willkins.



Beginning Choir

Melinda Reinhart, Director Front row: Jasmine Johnson. Vanessa Harwood, Demesha Kelly, Rebekah Mongold, Sebastian Arreola, Waymon Cruse, Tony Carter, Daisy Davis, Brittany Williams, Ashley Williams, ShaVonne Nelson: Second row: Kiera Shackelford, Shawnay Lardydell, Jocelyn Recio, Napri' Fondren, William Akins III, Derek Bailey, Willa Earwin, Romona Dillon, Tyshay Doss, Brittany Edmond; Third row: Shelby Holden, Angelica Erskine, Aliza Crawford, Jacob Bulter, Alexander Lopez, Cassandra Govert, Christian Garza, Rena' Petty; Back row: Hollyann Erskine, Keyandra Edwards, Janelle Taylor, Domynek Johnson, Valencia Smith, Diana Vargas.

World Language Clubs

Not just dreaming

about France

For some people, the wish of visiting France is just a dream. For others, like those in the French Club, it may still be a dream, but they work on learning the culture and language at their meetings.

Students in French classes or who have an interest in the French culture are welcome to participate in the French Club and its activities.

During their meetings, they also plan other activities related to the French culture.

"Every year, we visit and dine at a local French restaurant, Cafe Fondue," French teacher and sponsor Ms. Irene Spiro said. Students try to meet at least once a month.

"The highlight of this year would be when the language clubs got together and danced," Ms. Spiro said.



French Club

Irene Spiro, Sponsor Front row: Marissa Novak, Mya Mayfield, Amanda Currier, Belia Mercado; Second row: Rebecca Broom, Britany Thurson, Alyson Austin, Heather Mihal, Victoria Collins; Back row: Erika Fiskine, William Akins III, Zachary Fles, Ms.

Celebrating Spanish culture

Promoting and celebrating the Hispanic culture is the purpose of the Spanish Club. Although Sponsor Mrs. Esmeralda Palmerin-Zamora has been working in Merrillville for three years, she has been advising the Spanish Club ior only one year.

Approximately 15 members are in the club, and they continue to promote growth within the club.

The club takes a yearly field

trip to a local Mexican restaurant.
"This year, I took the club to
a Mexican restaurant closer to
Merrillville to provide a closer
transportation," Mrs. Palmerin-

Zamora said.

The Spanish Club got together with the French and German Clubs to share the foods and music of the different cultures. The club makes Hispanic students feel more comfortable and confident about their culture.



Building Trades

Bob Mackovyak, Sponsor

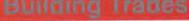
Front row: Darren Bryant Jr., Queonte Wilson, Christopher Mabone; Second row: Mr. Mackovyak, Thomas Sears; Back row: Michal Perry, Michael Whelan.



Spanish Club

Esmeralda Palmerin-Zamora, Sponsor

Front row: Sara Hernandez, Mrs. Palmerin-Zamora, Christian Garza; Back row: Kyle Jones, Juan Arellano, Archibald Amitoelau.



Mock Trial



Mock Trial

Sharon Row, Sponsor Front row: Latoya Moore, Demetria Downing, Osha Brownlee, Arlen Sims; Second row: Christian Frink, Rebekkah Kimani, Mrs. Row; Back row: James Wright, Michael Anderson. Not pictured: Robin Williamson.

In the Hammond Federal Court House, members of the Mock Trial team await results of the February 2011 Regional Competition. In this year's regional, members argued a defamation case involving bed bugs.



There's really nothing mock about the Mock Trial team. Members play the roles of both defendants and prosecutors as they present their case before a real judge who decides if the team wins or loses.

"The team has to play the roles of attorney and witness and they have to be prepared to defend or prosecute, depending on the luck of the draw," Sponsor Mrs. Sharon Row said.

"Judges have said that we are actually better than real attorneys in real life." Mrs. Row said.

In its debut last year, the team was fifth in the region, "the highest any first-year team had ever done," Mrs. Row said.

This year's team did not advance beyond the regional competition.

"The members are very special, hard workers. They think outside the box and they are remarkable students." Mrs. Row said.



Service is key to pride Mrs. Barb Dlouhy, current advisor of the Aktion Club, has worked with her club members soda can

Mrs. Barb Dlouny, current advisor of the Aktion Club, has worked with her club members in helping Meals on Wheels, a program that delivers meals to the homes of senior citizens, at spaghetti dinners and the annual Chili Cook-off. Members also collect coins found around the school and donate the money to a local food bank.

The club is a division of Kiwanis Service Organization, a program that helps disabled young adults participate in community service. Club activities include helping the technology department, counting the school's

newspapers and volunteering at the local food banks. Members collect soda can tabs and recycle them for money. The funds are donated to the Ronald McDonald House of Charity.

"Community service is important and should be available for all people. It also shows what handicapped people can do," Mrs. Dlouhy said. The club benefits students by helping to improve iob, social and vocal skills.

The Aktion Club meets once a month. Dlouhy has been the advisor of this club for five years. There is a total of ten members. "Anybody can do service learning and learn for it and gain pride," Dlouhy said.



Aktion Club

Barb Dlouhy, Sponsor

Front row: Kirstyn Oliver, Ashley Reynolds, Amon Searcy, Laura Kennedy; Back row: Carlton Murrell III, Benjamin Banks, Mrs. Dlouhy.

Aktion Club

Band

Advanced Band

Mark Danielson, Director Front row: Mya Mayfield, Gloria Graham, Kelli Chavez, Sarah Dora, Hannah Graham, Mikaila Lomax, Ashley Ahlborn, Gabrielle Bell, Alyssa Ross, Second row: Mr. Danielson, Freedom Johnson, Kathleen Murphy, Jessica Flores, Christa Flores, Miranda Vega, Daniella Douglas, Cymeburhleah Hayes, Eugene Rogers, Aleiandro Serranto; Third row: Christian Frink, Carly Larson, Joseph Patton, Nakel McClinton, Jasmine Ervin, Samantha Bailey, Charles Smith, Jacob Swierc, Jacob Styx, Joseph Brady, George Papmihalakis; Back row: Christian Brunski, Autry Phillips, Tyler Shockey, Terrence Yon, Randall Bultema Jr., Jordan Diaz, Tyler Scheive, Joseph Drapeau, Alex Swierc, Corey Weatherspoon, Rashid Dika. Not pictured: Austin Jamerson, Daniel Lipp.





Intermediate Band

Mark Danielson, Director

Front row: Taneejah Smith, Charis Burgstahler, Darius Dabadee, Eric Slade, Chaizma Jadeson, Gregory Williams; Second row: Malcolin Hindmon, Bradley Brayfield, Noah Foster, Kevin Woodfork; Third row: Thomas McFarland, Travante' Cooper, Timothy Shelton Jr., James Roberts, Mr. Danielson; Back row: Dante Mister, Kevin Semmes Jr., Adam Sherwinski



Jazz Band

Mark Danielson, Director

Front row: Sarah Dora, Ashley Allborn, Mya Mayfield, Makolm Pitts, Colin Evans, Kalle Domikaitis; Second row: Jessica Flores, Christa Flores, Cymeburhleah Hayes, Joseph Patton, Mr. Danielson; Third row: Eugene Rogers, Dame Bell, Malcolm Hindman, Katelyn Haddeway, Chwedherspoon; Back row: Jacob Swierz, Dose Medina, Samantha Bailey, Randail Bultema Jr., Terrence Yon, Travante' Cooper. Not Pictured: Ashley Jamerson.

Beginning Band

Mark Danielson, Director

Front row: Lindsay Moto, Malcom Pitts, Michael Bailey, Colin Evans, Gabriel Tapia, Adrianne Marquez, Rachel Scollent: Second row: Breyanna Turner, Nicholas Hayes, Steven Stout, Alondria Shufford, Brittany Ervin, Kelsey Ahlborn, Amaretta Hudson, Selena Seiber, Alexander Dailey: Third row: Janel King, Isabella Stevens, Ana Hernandez, Tatianna Gaona, Hannah Dixon, Emmanuel Briseno, Billy Fields III, Keon Gibson, Denzel Young, Mariah Lewis; Forth row: Dame's Bell, Martiana Varnado, Kantos Pacheco, Katelyn Haddaway, Jose Medina, Luke Ratley; Back row: Ronell King, Aaron Sanders, Alya Shelton, Samuel Blockson, David McKinsey, Mr. Danielson, Mot pictured: Marquise Horton.



Orchestra



Advanced Orchestra

John Bradford, Director Front row: Khari Coker, Allison Gronli. Inesha Smith, Allyiah Williams, Jessica Vasquez, Stephanie Husek, Tanya Riveron, Mr. Bradford; Second row: Brianna DeCausemaker, Lauren Kiser, Rebekkah Kimani, Corina Vazquez, Morgan Lamb, Lacey Richards, Brooke Wilson, Alyssa Nymeyer, Kara Phillips. Emma Harper, Lauren Carniello, Nikko Sadural; Back row: Kalie Domikaitis, Kaitlyn Sweeney, Kaelin Sanchez, Erica Homeier, Brandi McSwain, Angela Reynolds, Alex Murga, Cameron Grundy, Michael Rhoades, Paul Crowley, Daniel Tarulis, Mathew Harms, Pauline Panayi, Brittney Bass, Jhoey Sadural, Caleb Sanchez, Jose Rodriguez, Nichole McFarland. Not pictured: LaTonya Harrison, Avery Sameshima



Intermediate Orchestra

John Bradford, Director Front row: DeShay Vinson, Natieka Mathews, Aleiandro Jara, Andrea Mathis, Anthony Chamberlain. Sheridan Parker, Mackenzie Pearson; Second row: Kelli Wright, Lauren Williams, D'Shae Brown, Kourtney Woods, Jasmine Gruchmal, Mr. Bradford; Third row: Lauren Blackwell, Shannon Harris, JeanPierre Cardenas, Dylan Crane, Aerieyle Peterson, Briana Walker, Violet Lipscomb, Rachel Baran, Erin Weiss: Fourth row: William Perry. Briana Higareda, Leslee McSwain, Mia Patikas, Nathan Rodriguez, Aurielle Powell, Jessica Mireles, Natalia Ooms; Back row: Antonio Gomez, Otavi Locke, Michael Chabes, Jasmine Washington, Brandy Blackmon, Zachary Goralczyk, David Jordan, Lauren Harding, Tom Hagan III.



Beginning Orchestra

John Bradford, Director Front row: Damian DiGangi. Eduardo Yanez Jr, Darius Marteen, Angel DeLa Cruz, John Irak; Second row: Dorothy Williams, Naeemah White, Tomeria Marshall, Jameelah Rasheed, Shequida Dillard, Mr. Bradford, Victoria Miller; Third row: Tamera Julkes, Imani Smith, Melanie Atria, Krysta Thomas, Elizabeth Nino, Kayla Sadural; Back row: Marcus Bass, Caitlinn Caddick, Khayla Reid, Myranda Harris, Makayla Webster, Megan Wilkerson, Conor Shea, Alexis Deter, Brandon Bass.

As the minutes count down to broadcast time, Adviser Brian Past deals with last-minute microphone issues. Seconds before Junior April Bailey started to read the news, Past had to replace batteries in her microphone.



Pirate News Network

Brian Past, Adviser Josh Harroth, Assistant Front row: Eleni Kazonis, Tyler Shilling, Rachel Walton; Second row: Belia Mercado, Aurielle Carson, Emma Bice, Bianca Clark, Rosalyn Baker, Third row. Jerel Cole, Christopher Huley, Adam Serwacki, Mr. Haryoth; Back row: Mr. Past, Ian Stacks, Robert Robinson, Daniel Jankuloski.



Bringing the news to MHS



Before the Morning Show is presented to students, Junior Morgan Walton creates graphics showing the birthdays and menu for the day. Mr. Josh Harvoth, who joined the PNN staff as an assistant, keeps the students on schedule. Harvoth was the 2002 Most Valuable Staffer for PNN.



A PNN staffer for two years, Senior Eleni Kazonis reviews her footage on the camera before turning in her weekly assignment. Kazonis was enrolled in Brian Past's Advanced Video Production class and was on the staff of "The Friday Show." On the sound board, Junior Paris Courtney tests the microphones before the morning broadcast goes live. Courtney helped present the morning news during the second and third trimester.

What's going on, Merrillville?

Students and staff alike look to PNN as a source of information about school events and activities.

"PNN gives students a creative outlet by filming and producing news segments and music videos," adviser Mr. Brian Past said.

PNN members host the morning news show daily and The Friday Show at the end of each week.

The Friday Show includes news segments about sports teachers and school related events. It also contains skits about everyday life meant to entertain the audience.



A two-year newspaper veteran, Senior Raevyn Harper outlines her plans for the features section. As Features Editor, Harper generates new themes for the feature spread every issue that will create interest among students and teachers and give the school something to talk about. Harper also creates original layouts for the feature pages to display the staff's stories and catch the attention of readers.



To prepare for the next issue, Seniors Alv Austin and Meredith Dobes and Sophomore Francesca Bricker discuss story ideas.

Writing with a purpose

Every year, the student body at MHS looks to The Mirror to discuss in-school as well as out-of-school topics. This year was no different.

The experienced staff filled the shoes of the graduating seniors from the Class of 2010 and "hit the ground running."

"The senior leadership was tremendous. They made the transition from last year so easy, and we had plenty of senior support," newspaper adviser Mrs. Teresa Procter said. Returning editors were Seniors Alvson Austin. Meredith Dobes, Raevyn Harper, Jimmy Wright and Patricia Zimmerman.

Newspaper is a complete production class. Students interview sources and report the news by writing and editing stories. Each issue they also take pictures and design pages.



Newspaper

Teresa Procter, Adviser Front row: Raevyn Harper, Raven Smith, Taylor Smith, BreAnn Pulphus, Aly Austin; Second row: Francesca Bricker, Megan Vinson, Patti Zimmerman, Samuel Gubitz: Third row: Meredith Dobes, Carley Laughhead, Nakel McClinton; Back row: Victor Chambliss, Davna Young, James Wright.

Coming off of a successful season, the 2010 football team was ready to continue where they left off.

"I expected to win and beat every team by a whole bunch of points," Senior Matthew Neal said.

Confidence was not something the team lacked this year. With many open spots after the Class of 2010 graduated, juniors were expected to step up.

"If I didn't step up, I would have lost my position. I did it for my team, too," Junior Michael Nickson said.

"Being an upperclassman makes me be a leader. Last year's seniors were good leaders. They brought underclassmen under their wings and showed them what being a Pirate was all about," Junior lan Stacks said.

Being a young team did not faze the Pirates as they went on for an 8-3 season. The young offensive line stepped up and helped in defeating seven of the eight Duneland Athletic Conference teams, with the only DAC loss to Valparaiso.

Late wins and high scoring games became common, with a 51-point difference against Michigan City (68-17), and a 45-point difference against Lake Central (68-23) in the regular

The seniors hope that all the young boys learn valuable skills and lessons this year.

"Keep working hard and find a way to win. Whether it be play by play in the game, or in life because we are young men and football teaches us life lessons," Senior Zachary Raspopovich said.

The Pirates finished their season 8-3.

Standout ϵ



MVP Denzel Pierce



MVP O-line Robert Robinson



Mr. Zip
Carlos Dickerson

Big heart and determination



Jacob Raspopovich Wide Receiver (9) Sophomore

"It's cool to have your brother play with you and throw you the ball," Sophomore Jacob Raspopovich said. "Sometimes we fight, but it's cool and a lot of fun."

Share



With a victory seconds away, running back Senior Denzel Pierce scores a touchdown against Andrean. "I was pleased with the outcome of the Andrean game," Pierce said.



leadership Payton Parker



MVP D-skill Jory Cunningham



most improved

Anton Redmon



MVP D-line Matthew Neal



MVP O-skill Zachary Raspopovich



sportsmansh Kourtney Berry





especially if we played to our potential," Wells

The Score Opponent Warren Central 49 - 14 L 201 127 - 13 W Andrean Crown Point 24 - 21 W Portage 35 - 27 W Michigan City 68 - 17 W LaPorte 42 - 41 W Valparaiso 34 - 21 L Lake Central 62 - 23 W Chesterton 32 - 29 W Sectional W- 8 L- 3 48 - 27 W

When you're a defensive line coach, you have to watch a lot more film because you have to know what the offensive line is doing. I feel more comfortable coaching

20 - 14 L

defensive line because I was a lineman and I like to get dirty. Coach Jacob Stafford



Punting the ball during the Andrean game, Senior quarterback Zach Raspopovich (6) kicks the ball toward the endzone. "Most of my time goes to being a quarterback, but when I have time, I go to the sideline and practice kicking. Being a punter, you have to be in a whole different mindset. It's hard to be a punter. People overlook being a punter and it's a lot more difficult than people think. It's not easy," Raspopovich said.

Coming off of a block, Senior defensive end Lachapelle Bradley (95) looks to sack Crown Point's quarterback. "During the game, I try to break down the plays in my head and remember my keys," Bradley said. After high school Bradley plans to go to college and continue playing football.

The Score

Opponent

Griffith	3 - 1 W
Lowell	1-3L
LaPorte Tourney	6th place
Calumet Christian	0-3L
Andrean	4 0-3L
Crown Point 9()1	0-3L
Crown Point 201.	1 0-3L
Chesterton	0-3L
Kankakee Valley Classic	6th place
Valparaiso	0-3L
LaPorte	0-3L
Michigan City	3-2W
Portage	3-2W
Crown Point	3-2L
Crown Point Varsity Tourney	8th place
Chesterton	0-3L
Valparaiso	0-3L
Bishop Noll	1-3L
LaPorte	0-3L
Michigan City	0-3L
Portage	2-3L
Sectional	0-3L
Sectional	0-3L

L - 16 W - 3

would like to play in college. Freshman 3 lena Diaz





Before each game, the girls on the volleyball team share strategies on how to defeat their opponents. "I try to think about what the coaches said and how to keep the team up during the hard times," outside hitter Mackenzie Milon (1)



As a middle hitter, Senior Ashley Jamerson (6) is under a lot of pressure in her leadership role. "I think I'm under a lot of pressure as a player and a leader," Jamerson said. Right hitter Senior Kayla Wiggins (12) said she has also taken the role as a leader as she pushes her teammates to be more aggressive.



Varsity Volleyball

Varsity Volleybalı Coach Luke Starkey Front row: İnesha Smith, Jessica Vasquez, Selena Diaz, Myranda Harris, Jessica Martin, LaQuana Carpenter, Back row: Coach Starkey, Amanda Banashak, Ashley Jamerson, Kayla Wiggins, MacKenzie Milon, Megan Dicken, Assistant Coach Heidi Dulla.





leadership



MVP Megan Dicken

sportsmanshi

Jessica Martin

most improved

Myranda Harris

The goal for this volleyball season was improvement.
"The records might not show it, bu

"The records might not show it, but there has been a lot of progress this season," first time assistant coach Heidi Dulla said.

With freshmen on the varsity team and fresh talent coming in for future seasons, the girls are optimistic.

"We just want to improve all aspects of the game," Junior defensive hitter Amanda Banashak said. With a new coaching staff to create some new techniques, the girls have a better outlook on the game.

"We trusted the coaches, we trusted each other and we trusted ourselves,

and that helped a lot," Senior Kayla Wiggins said.

The team really tried to bond over the summer before the season by going to the beach and making T-shirts.

The seniors said they are proud of improvement, the juniors and sophomores are excited for next year and the freshmen are just excited to be a part of the experience.

Some ideas for the improvement process include cranking up the intensity and playing games for more than just the thrill.

"We don't want to play just to play," Junior libero Inesha Smith said. "We want to play to win."

Killing the competition



Making sure they succeed, Coach Heidi Dulla wants the girls to focus on winning. "When you have the ball, you have control of the game," Dulla said.



Megan Dicken Front row middle hitter

Junior

"My hair has to be the same, and I have to wear the same socks."





JV Volleyball

Front row: Elizabeth Nino, Selena Diaz, Brittany Mulligan, Yvon Anguiano, Tyler Person, Jessica Vasquez, Ashley Hansbury: Back Row: Andrea Mathis, Jada Jones, Julie Ross, Coach Warren, Mla Patikas, Patricia Spikes, Lauren Harding.



Freshman Volleyball Coach Christina Gehlhausen

Front row: Felecia Martinez, Jordan Smith, Jacqueline DeLeon, Naeemah White, Ja'Kwanna Biffle; Back row: Britney Platts, Brianna Scott, Coach Gehlhausen, Briana Scott, Khayla Reid. "Remaining positive and continuing to play hard," Head Coach Brian Past said. "Those are two of the most important factors when playing on a team."

Despite the losing season, the boys stayed positive and went to sectionals, winning the first round against Griffith.

The team completed their season and finished with an overall record of 4-15

The team shared their thoughts on the season, focusing on the memories and good times they had with each other.

"It was a good season, though it could've been better. But we gave 110 percent every game," Senior James Ooms said. "When we were on the soccer field, nothing else mattered. We were just focused," Ooms said.

"My most memorable moment would have to be going to soccer camp with the team during the summer," Junior Emmanuel Calvillo said.

Some players also saw a lot of improvement in themselves and other teammates.

"We didn't win the whole season, but at the end of the day, the best thing is seeing that the players improved and them knowing they've improved," Past

Although the boys' soccer team is losing a lot of seniors, the team still has a lot of goals for next season.

"It's going to be a difficult season because of all the seniors leaving, but we'll go in with a good attitude." Past said.

Kicks and leadership



Emilio Hernandez Midfielder Sophomore

"I expected to be the best this year."





During a game against Michigan City Senior midfielder James Ooms (18) goes to kick the hall.





Standouts

leadership

Anthony Anaotti

sportsmanshid



Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach Brian Past

Front row: Kanjiiro Nanjiin, Luis Sanchez, Christopher Stojanovski, Bryan Unuzquieta, Anthony Angotti; Second row: Miguel Lagunas, Emilio Hemandez, Keith Yockey, Kyle Jones, Nick Engholer, Abraham Garcia, Brandon Uruzquieta; Back row: Assistant Coach Brad Daniel, Peter Barlanga, James Ooms, Coach Past, Nastin Jamerson, Messay Crawford-Taylor, Assistant Coach Rick Hurey.



Boys' JV Soccer Coach Rick Hurey

Coear nuc murey Front row: Anthony Orliz, Alex Begale, Gabriel Carbalal, Jorge Gulierrez, Jordan Diaz, Jacob Pardus, Second row: Eduardo Yanez, Alex Mojica, Jalen Foster, Jacob Styr, Alex Murga, Ryan Soto; Back row: Coach Brad Daniel, Jacob Carey, Francisco Barrera, Coach Brian Past, Correy Johnson, Michael Chabes, Coach Hurey.





Senior forward Bryan Uruzquieta (7) tries to take out Hobart Senior Carmen Monchilovich. "I would have played harder and focused more on the game," Uruzquieta said when asked about his performance this season.

The Score

Opponent

Andrean LaPorte	3-0L 3-1L
Kankakee Valley	2-1W
Chesterton A	1 3-1L
Hoosier Cup	
Invitational ~ U	1
Bishop Chatard	3-1W
Jasper	2-0L
Columbus North	1-0L
Valparaiso	3-0L
Munster	5-2L
Michigan City	4-0L
Hobart	7-2W
Crown Point	3-0L
West Lafayette	1-0 L
Lafayette Jefferson	3-0L
Lake Central	
	5-0L
Ft. Wayne Canterbury	3-0L
Portage	1-0L
Sectional	2-0 W
	5-2L

Te frepared, which we were, but we came up short.

W - 4

L - 15

Senior defension midfielder Anthony Angotti



Returning the ball in a game against Michigan City is Senior goalie Christopher Stojanovski (GK). Stojanovski has been playing soccer for four years. This was his first year on Varsity. Stojanovski said he was proud to play Varsity. "I would have made the team play harder," Stojanovski said. Stojanovski abo believes that communication is key to any game.



Doing his best to focus on his footwork is Senior defender Messay Crawfort-Taylor (23). "Do the best you can for yourself and your teammates. If a teammate plays his heart out, I admire and appreciate that more than winning," Crawford-Taylor said.

The Score **OPPONENT** Andrean Jamboree Wheeler East Chicago 2011 Chesterton Kankakee Valley 6-0L Lowell 3-0W Valparaiso Andrean Griffith 1 - O L Michigan City Crown Point Lake Central Boone Grove Portage

W-4 L-14 T-1

Graculty like to recall my personal goals and do a little prayer before game. Nothing special. Senior defender Mya Mavifeld







All smiles, Junior defensive midfielder Miranda Stewart (2) celebrates with her teammate Senior Sydney Harold (3). Though excited about playing next year since it will be her senior year, she admitted, "I am a little scared knowing that it is my senior year and I will have to step up my game to be a leader for the girts. I have always looked up on the older girls before me, and now that I am the one that could get looked up to, it puts more pressure on me to do a good job, give advice and help others, like the girls before me did. One has to get close," said Stewart.



Force after graduation

In a swinging motion, Senior right defender Jill Ross (8) advances the ball down the field. "Coach started me out as a right defender this year, a position I've never played, but I was really happy about how I took to the position. It widened my perspective on the field," said Ross. Her biggest before-the-game superstition is matching socks. She has to wear a specific pair of mismatched socks, and the night before a game, she paints her nails to match.





Improving on last year's record was a major focus for the 2010 girls' soccer team.

"The team has improved a lot last year, and we are hoping to represent the Pirates the best way that we can," forward Sophomore Melissa Costakis said.

"We practice every day except Sunday, so it's very hard for us," defender Sophomore Amy Aponte said.

"Before every game, Coach (Ben)
Daniel tells us that he believes in us
and we should do the same."

Coach Daniel, now in his third year of coaching girls' soccer, said he is already anticipating next year, when several players will return.

"During the last game, I looked on the field and noticed there are only three

seniors on the team, and I knew that the underclassmen were going to be returning next year," Coach Ben Daniel said

Expectations are high for next year.
"For the girls who consider trying out for the team, try your best and never give up," Costakis said.

Costakis began playing soccer when she was four and stopped before high school. That changed when she entered MHS. "What inspired me to join the team has to be my passion for soccer," she said.

This year, injuries were big. There were several concussions, and many girls had ankle problems.

"Girls got beat up left and right, but they were tough and played through it," Coach Daniel said.

Committed to their goals



Working to keep the ball from opponents, Senior midfielder Sydney Harold (3) dribbles the ball during the LaPorte game. "Honestly, school first; don't let your grades slip, and then make sure you are working out all year," said Harold.



Natalia Ooms Midfielder (13) Sophomore

> "My brother influences me to play because he's a good soccer player. He teaches me what he knows and he is a leader. I want to follow in his footsteps."

> > Share



Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach Ben Daniel

Adrianna Marquez

Front row: Daniella Carbajal, Amy Aponte, Victoria Verduzco, Erika Valladares, Mya Mayfield, Second row: Adrienne Marquez, Amsteventis, Lacey Richards, Jill Ross, Miranda Slewarf, Melissa Costakis, Kaillyn Yockey; Back row: Assistant Coach Tammy Deel, Coach Daniel, Brittney Brack, Alexandra Domoras, Morgan Orosz, Sydney Harold, Nakel McClinton, Natalla Coms, Assistant Coach Jason Kendera, Manager Valerie Bly.



JV Girls' Soccer Coach Tammy Deal

Front row: Morgan Bonick, Elise Anguiano, Niesha Aaron, Nahkayla Loveless, Selena Robertson, Imani Smith, Shequida Diliard : Second row: Katy Guzek, Alexis Alexander, Danielle Abel, Rachell Humes, Cassandra Govert, Madeline Estrada, Hannah Graiman, Amanda Jackson, Amy Aponte, Bask row: Coach Deel, Coach Ben Daniel, Sara Hemandez, Jasmine Ervin, Jaleesa Holmes, Alejandra Mata, Kirston Willey, Hannah Dixon, Coach Jason Kendera, Manager Valene Bly. The boys' cross country team entered the 2010 season with specific goals.

"We want to finish top four at the DAC competition," Coach Michael Hoffman said. There were several returning runners, mostly seniors, from last year.

In October, the team advanced to regionals.

Each runner had a unique way of

"It's all about heart," Freshman Aaron Beshears said. "Thinking makes it hard." he explained.

Senior Kevin Caruana said, "From my worst race to my best race, I've dropped my time by seven minutes."

The girls' team worked with new and experienced members to meet their goals.

"I think it's hard work, but it's worth it. But at the end, you're proud of yourself for doing better than you did," Junior Nichole Anderson said.

The team spent several weeks preparing for races.

"We have a practice run for ten minutes before the short and long runs," Senior Brechey White said.

At sectionals at Lemon Lake Park in Crown Point, the team accomplished something they had not in ten years. They placed third and advanced as a team to regionals.

Coach Aaron Crawn said he felt there was still more room for improvements.

"I am happy with some of the runners," Coach Crawn said, "but I know others are capable of much

most improved Francis Dusik

Standouts

Dylan Harrison

Surpassing the average pace



Kyle Schroeder Varsity Cross Country runner Senior

"Being on the team has given me the best experience of my life, and I would give anything for another four years of running with Mike Hoffman as the coach."

Share



As part of a family of runners, Senior Kevin Caruana runs at Woodland Park. "I've been running since fourth grade, but I actually joined a team when I was in sixth," Caruana said. Caruana's older brothers, Andrew and Daniel, both ran for MHS.



Kyle Schroeder



Boys' Cross Country Coach Mike Hoffman

Front row: Tyler Gray, Francis Dusik, Kyle Schroeder, John Costakis; Second row: Conor Hill, Jacob Caddick, Marcus Jones, Korey Smith, Dylan Harison, Zack Phillips; Back row: Aaron Beshears, Cordney Ellis, Coach Holfman, Kevin Caruana, Nick Delgado.



Girls' Cross Country

Coach Aaron Crawn
Front row: Allson Gronli, Brechey White, Taylor Gaddy, Megan Vinson,
Oyerra Sims, Emma Bice; Back Row: Assistant Coach Molly Crawn,
Kara Phillips, Victoria Collins, Maryam Adisa, Nicole Anderson, Anjelica
Peppers, Coach Crawn.





While running with a minor injury, Senior Jacob Caddick competes at Woodland Park against Portage. His goal for the 2010 cross country season was to run live kilometers in 15:50 minutes and to advance to state. At the New Prairie Regionals, Caddick limished 35th. Before each meet. Caddick said he kept this in mind to stay motivated: "The fear to go forward simply makes you stay where you are."



Competing against Portage, Sophomore Kara Phillips has one important thought on her mind. "If I don't do my best, then I'll hurt the team," Phillips said. "My goal this year is to make it to regionals individually," Phillips added.

After placing third in semi-state and advancing to the state track meet in the fall of 2009, Senior Dylan Harrison began this season with several goals in mind. Harrison placed 1st at the Crown

placed 1st at the Crown Point Sectional and Regional, 13th at the semistate and 114th at the state finals.



VERRILLVILLE

Before every meet, first-year runner Sophomore Angelica Peppers remembers to 'finish strong and do your best, and don't let anyone run the race for you." "The first-year runner came in 40th at sectionals, running the 5k race in just over 26 minutes.

The Score	
Opponent	
Boys Gavit Invitational Portage Tri-Meet Portage Tri-Meet DAC Invite Sectional Regional	5th 2nd 2nd 3rd 16th 3rd 5th 3rd 8th
Girls Gavit Invitational Portage Tri-Meet Tri-Meet	8th 2nd 3rd 3rd

3rd

A new runner for this year's cross country team, Junior Oyera Sims said she set personal goals for herself. Throughout the course of the season, she dropped her times. 'Having my father as my coach, I listen to his speeches, which helps me stay motivated,' Sims said. Sims finished 7th at sectionals and 17th at regionals.

The Score

Opponent

Highland 4-11 Wheeler 3 - 2 W Chesterton 3-2L Lake Central 2011 Valparaiso Crown Point LaPorte Portage Michigan City L - 8 3-2L Munster 4-1L Sectionals

The are always helping each other Coach James Simon







While getting ready to return the ball to his opponents, No. 1 doubles, Junior Tyler Shockey focuses on his aim. "Tennis is, for the most part, mentally harder because it can become very distracting when the crowd starts talking,"





Working with his doubles partner Junior Luqmann Ruth, Junior Mansoor Arifee hits the ball. Toward the end of the season, Arifee took place of Sophomore Joseph Brady after his injury. "I chose tennis because I felt I had a natural talent for it," Arifee said. "Even though doubles are fun, next season I would prefer to play singles. I would rather play singles because you have the control, and if your partner is having a bad day it won't affect you," Ruth said.



To hit the ball to his opponent, No. 3 singles Sophomore Joseph Brady uses the strength in his forearm. Due to his injury during the season, Brady was out for six weeks. "I dislocated my shoulder and tore my labrum," Brady said. "The overall season went well, even though our record would not show how strong of a team we really are," Brady said.





leadership Brandon Shea



most improved Kenneth Walsh

sportsmanship

Lugmann Ruth

MVP

Leonard Mathews II

The 2010 boys' tennis team has many memories.

No. 1 singles Junior Leonard Mathews advanced to regionals, where he won the first round but was beaten in the championship round.

The team lost to Hobart in the first round of sectionals.

"Mark Shiedler from Valparaiso was the toughest player I have had to match," said Mathews.

"The season went well. We could have won more. We had good team chemistry and everyone got along very well, which made us more successful," said Coach James Simon.

Simon has been coaching for five years and wants the team to do better next season by being more focused and practicing during off-season.

"Simon helps us by letting us know how we need to improve and what things we are doing well," No. 2 doubles Junior Lugmann Ruth said.

The team had only one injury. No. 3 singles Sophomore Joseph Brady dislocated his shoulder and tore his labrum. With Brady out, Junior Mansoor Arifee took the spot.

Finishing up the season, the boys' season ended with a record of 4-11.

"Even though the season didn't end well, the team always has room for improvements for the following season," No. 2 singles Freshman Nygel Jackson said.

"I would encourage anyone to join tennis if you have a strong desire to play," Senior Brandon Shea said.

Making a lot of vacquet



As the ball goes over the net, No. 2 singles Freshman Nygel Jackson runs toward the ball. "Tennis is more of a mental game because you have to think before you put it into action," said Jackson.



Brandon Shea No. 1 doubles Senior

"After showing leadership throughout the years, it was nice having the ability to be the boys' tennis captain."

Share



Boys' Tennis

Coach James Simon

Front row: James Schilling, Brandon Shoe, Garret Gault, Mansoor Affiee, Leonard Mathews, Nygel Jacksen; Second row: Jacob Boyd, Alexander Swierc, Tyler Shockey, Michael Spicknall, Robert Taylor, Joseph Brady; Back row: Assistant Coach Kyle Prow, Ronald Mayersky Jr., Kenneth Walsh, Lugmann Huth, Coach Simon.



Coaching the boys' tennis team for five years, Coach James Simon would like to keep improving the team every year. "Next season, I would like to get more focused and do more off-season conditioning. Simon said the team has extremely good chemistry, and everyone gets along. "They are always helping each other improve," Simon said.

Game, set and match. Another tennis season is in the books. Most of their lineup is gone with the graduating seniors, but while their record did not show improvement, there was definitely a boost in attitude, character and teamwork this season.

Senior Kelsey Sajdera stated, "I felt that I improved tremendously through the season. I was more confident by the end." Sajdera played the No. 1 singles position. The leadership may have played a vital role in her confidence and helped motivate other team members.

"Keeping a positive attitude and never giving up along with encouragement is key to motivating others," she said.

The strong character trickled down to the underclassmen as well.

Freshman Victoria Miller said, "I learned to how to be more focused and not to beat myself up after a loss." The biggest goal was not to win the most games. It was just an added bonus. It does not mean, though, that they ever gave up.

"Winning as a team is definitely a huge goal," Junior Morgan Lamb said.

While the girls do not have to rely on each other to win the game given they are not doubles partners, the sport still thrives off the spirit of good sportsmanship for themselves and others. "It's a team effort," Miller said.

The future of the tennis team is left to the underclassmen.

"We're going to do practices that are focused more on specific skills and be more serious about it," Lamb said.

Junior Lauren Carniello gives her fellow tennis players advice saying, "Never get down on yourself. It's not the end until you make it that way."

no more deuces



Morgan Lamb No. 2 Singles Junior

Girls' Tennis

"I loved my team. We were a lot closer than we were last year. It was like we were actually more like a family this year."

Share



After serving the ball, No. 1 doubles player Senior Allison Varela hopes to get it over the net. "I am going to miss my team. We actually became more like a family this year," she said. Varela has played tennis for several years, and she said she has grown to love and enjoy it.



Standouts

Coach Kyle Prow
Font row: Conor Shea, Eleny
Bablionia, Francesca Brickier, Jesmine
Gruchmal, Morgan Boyd, Stephanie
Ferrell, Nhu Doan, Dayanna Arichavala,
Lea Neligan, Lauren Carniello, Zahra
Arifee, Second row: Ashley Wilkowski,
Kamaria Richardson, Christa Flores,
Lauren Harding, Tiffany Lee, Megan
Austin, Ana Adama, Aliyah Williams,
Foroke Wilson, Morgan Lamb, Cattlinn
Caddick; Back row: Assistant Coach
Greg Branda, Taylor Allen, Angelique
Oyervides, Miranda Vega, Melanee
Stubbs, Tie Harris, Jelena Djurdjevic,

Allison Varela, Victoria Miller, Brittany Mulligan, Coach Prow.





Senior Eleny Babilonia being constant with my game," Babilonia said.

The Score

Opponent

Highland 5 - 0 L West Lafayette 5 - 0 L 5 - 0 L **Plymouth** Michigan City 3-2L Marquette 5-0L Lowell 3-2L 3-2L Hobart Z Crown Point 3-2L Michigan City 5-0L Hammond 5-0L Morton 3 - 2 L LaPorte 5 - 0 L MHS Tourney 4-1L Valparaiso 5-0L Wheeler 3-2L Portage 5 - 0 L

This was my first year playing, but I did the best that I colon Senior

4-1L

4-1L

Melanee Stubbs

Chesterton

Sectionals

Lake Central



While waiting on her teammate No. 1 doubles Senior Allison Varela to hit the ball, Senior Lea Neligan stands with her feet planted on the ground. "I've been playing tennis since 8th grade and I liked it, so I just stuck with it," Neligan said. "Most days I just try to go out and have fun, but I sometimes beat myself up for not doing my best," Neligan said.



To make suggestions to his athlete on how to improve before the end of the match, Coach Kyle Prow talks through the fence to Junior Morgan Lamb. "I try to always encourage the girls and keep them focused on the positive and not the negative things during a game," Prow said.



The Score

Opponent	
Homestead	75 - 55 W
Highland	82 - 53 W
Chesterton	80 - 54 W
LaPorte	50 - 43 W
Andrean	89 - 60 W
Michigan City	53 - 46 W
Lake Central	82 - 58 W
Crown Point Valparaiso Portage 2011	66 - 59 W
Valparaiso	62 - 48 W
Portage ~ ~ ~ I	84 - 43 W
LaPorte	59 - 33 W
Lake Central	68 - 56 W
Michigan City	57 - 46 W
Lowell	70 - 49 W
Crown Point	58 - 54 W
Munster	64 - 75 L
Chesterton	100 - 52 W
Valparaiso W- 20 L- 2	62 - 55 W
Hobart	95 - 45 W
Portage	97 - 46 W
Sectional	63 - 33 W
Sectional	70 - 51 W
Sectional	43 - 50 L

San East helped me become a more confident player, and he motivated me to play stronger Senior Olatokunbo

Fashawe

Adding points to the scoreboard, Senior Joshua Hogan (32)



Running up the court with the Pirate Crew screaming in the background, Senior Brandon Clark (10) dribbles the ball and goes full force to complete the play. "The crowd gives me a type of adrenaline which encourages me to make the right play," Clark said. Clark recieved a full athletic





In deep concentration at the free throw line, Senior Jeremiah Jones (22) has his eye on the basket while cheerleaders and teammates Brandon Smith and Brandon Clark watch. "I just try to stay focused and make the shot," Jones said. Jones made 75 percent of his free throws in his high school school career.



Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach Jim East

Front row: Brandon Clark, Anton Redmon, Andre' Ross, Brandon Smith; Second row: Cameron Smith, Joshua Hogan, Jonathon Mosley, Jerimiah Jones, Jacob Raspopovich, Bryce Billingsley; Back row: Bradley Brayfield, Assistant Coach Dave Herring, Edward Seay, Coach East, Olatokunbo Fashawe, Assistant Coach T.J. Lux, Robert Robinson.



Standouts



MVP leadership



sportsmanship Andre' Ross

The boys' basketball team started the season ranked 25th in the nation, according to Rivals.com.

Going into their last season with Jim East as head coach, the team's ambitions were high. "Our expectations were simple. Do whatever we have to get to state," Senior Olatokunbo Fashawe said.

The team started the season 15-0 before running into a minor setback with a mid-season loss to Munster, "After the loss, all we did was work hard and get ready for the next time we saw them." Senior Anton Redmon Jr. said.

Undeterred by the loss, they "continued to catch fire" by winning their next four games before the end of regular season.

The boys finished the regular season as the Duneland Athletic Conference champions.

"I felt accomplished about being the conference champions because no one beat us. We stayed undefeated, and that's hard to do," Senior Brandon Clark

The team went into the post-season with one loss on their record, ready to make moves toward winning a state championship. "We can win. All we have to do is stay humble and focus. then we can do our best," Redmon said.

The boys came up short of their goal, losing to conference rival Valparaiso in the sectional championship.

Taking over as head coach in the 2011-12 season is T.J. Lux, who played basketball for Merrillville for four years and graduated in 1995. He was the leading scorer for the '95 state runnerup team. Lux played collegiate ball at Northern Illinois and professional basketball in Germany and France.

Dominant defense, better offense



With a Crown Point defender tracing his moves, Senior Brandon Smith (14) plans to maneuver for an open look at the basket. Smith hurt his knee late in the season after the loss to Munster. He said plaving better teams "puts pressure on the team" to play their best.



Anton Redmon Shooting Guard #20 Senior

"I tune everybody out and try not to think about a lot of things. Sitting down and trying to picture myself playing in the game helps me get focused."





Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach Dave Herring

Front row: Frank Jefferson, Lee Cooper, Jamard Owens; Second row: Breon Magee, Anthony Disco, Kevin Wilkerson, Zoran Talley, Devin Westbrooks; Back row: Airius Reed, Justin Bullock, Coach Herring, Jelani Pruitt, Isaiah Wilson.



Freshman Boys' Basketball

Coach Luke Starkey

Front row: Trayvion Smith, Nygel Jackson, Diante' Montgomery, Monte Hamlet II, Nicholas Hayes. Second row: Mgr. Shawn Forbes, Michaud Cherry, Tyrie Fuller, Kyle Krause, Bryant Isabell, Montel Winbush, Mgr. Denzel Young. Back row: Coach Starkey, Demetrious McKeethen, James Wright III, Deonte' Warren, Billy Grant Jr., Michael Reese, Coach Jim Vermillion.

Standout:

After the graduation of five key players last season, the girls' basketball team hoped to repeat sectional and regional titles in the 2011 season.

After a disappointing, early loss in the second round of the post-season sectional tournament, the young talented girls' basketball team is looking toward the future.

"Of course we wanted to go to state, but we tried to take it one game at a time. We put a good game together against Hobart in the first round, and

were looking towards the upcoming season." Varsity Co-captain Raveen

Even with a young team, the girls' basketball team managed to 'shoot' their way through the Duneland Athletic Conference, accumulating a 14-5 record throughout the season.

"It's always tough losing five seniors, but with are young team. We managed to fight through it and learn to build our chemistry together as a new team," Murray said.

Murray said.





sportsmanshil Christina Brown



Raveen Murray

Queens of the court



Raveen Murray Shooting Guard #14 Junior

"Being at the game and having people cheer you on makes you very hype, but half the time, you really don't hear them because your head's in the game."

Share



As she moves away from the defender, Junior Briana Thompson . "I love the game. My family grew up playing basketball and I grew up playing it. I just love it. I don't believe I'll ever fall out of love with the game," Thompson said.



Freshman Girls' Basketball Coach Ben Daniel

Bottom Row: Shaquita Dillard, Tiera Bean, Ahdezjia Smith, Niesha Aaron, Ashley Hansbury. Back Row: Coach Daniel, Kamaria Richardson, Nia McMurray, Riana Todd, Tadja Outlar, Selena Diaz, Coach Brad Daniel.



Junior Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach Rina Molina

Front row: Jasmine Johnson, Taylor Allen, Rasheeda Robinson, Lacey Richards, Anjelica Peppers; Back row: Andrea Mathls, Amber Sturdivant, Mia Patikas, Coach Molina, Tia Harris, Myranda Harris, Sheridan Parker.



The Score

Opponent

Highland Andrean Valparaiso Portage Chesterton Elkhart Memorial LaPorte Michigan City Lake Central Munster 2011Valparaiso Portage .owell LaPorte lobart Lake Central Chesterton Michigan City Crown Point W- 14 L- 5 Sectional Sectional

63 - 40 W 61 - 44 W 53 - 44 W 76 - 71 W 62 - 67 45-74 48 - 45 V 37 - 59 | 54 - 621 54 - 41 V 62 - 78 | 63 - 36 W 66 - 51 W 66 - 55 V 54 - 20 W 52 - 45 V 75 - 72 V 74 - 67 \ 52 - 70 81 - 74 V 49 - 48 W 61 - 62

Glaving varsity time is great. You learn from it, plus it is a

great experience."
Sophomore Pariyan
Morris



Telling the team their next play and giving them a confidence, Coach Arny Govert fiels the team to stay on game. 'We always have goals and because of these goals that's what we try to accomplish.' 'What the school should expect is new game because last year we lost a lot of players, but this year it makes up because we have a lot of new lotwers.' Govert said.

Varsity Girls Basketball Coach Amy Govert

Front row: Brianna Thompson, Dariyan Morris, Robin Williamson, Jasmyne Miller, Christina Brown, Raween Murray, Audrianna Downs; Back row: Coach Darcy Johnston, Amanda Banashak, Melanee Stubbs, Kacey Cole, Tanasia Beavers, Darian Patton, Coach Govert.

The Score Opponent

Boys 122 - 64 L 114 - 72 L 145 - 40 L Portage Rensselaer Central Lake Central Highland Hobart Hobart Crown Point 2011 129 - 32 W Kankakee Valley Lowell Valparaiso Munster Michigan City LaPorte Wheeler 131 - 50 W Chesterton DAC 84 pts. 8th

Sectional

108 - 78 L Lowell 150 - 36 L Chesterton 116 - 70 L Portage Rensselaer Central 98 - 88 L Lake Central 151 - 35 L 106 - 79 W Highland Hobart 114 - 71 W 118 - 68 L 138 - 48 W Crown Point Griffith 104 - 82 L Kankakee Valley Valparaiso Munster 131 - 55 L 147 - 39 L Michigan City 115 - 71 L DAC 86 pts. 8th LaPorte 113 - 73 L 102 - 81 L Wheeler 68.5 pts. 7th Sectionals

Girls

Diving, Sophomore Jacob Pardus does a reverse pike at a meet. Being on the team for two years. he has many goals. One of them is to be captain of the swim team. Compared to last season, he has improved especially in diving by building up strength and practicing on his own.

121 - 65 L

133 - 53 L

98 - 86 L

109 - 75 L

103 - 77 L

129 - 57 L

117 - 69 L

109 - 76 L 118 - 68 L

147 - 39 L

77 pts. 6th



me," Yoder said. She

has been swimming

since she was a

freshman.







Nichole Anderson



sportsmanship Kara Phillips







Performing a back somersault pike, Sophomore Imani Shelby pikes down into the water. "I practiced that dive three to five times a meet to make sure I got it," she said. Shelby has been swimming for five years, and wanted to continue in high school.



Swimming the backstroke at a meet, Senior David Jordan tries to remember the team motto, "Be the best you can be, do the best you can do, and never give up." Over the past three years on the team, Jordan has improved by dropping his times, despite an injury during his junior year to his pectoral muscle and tearing a ligament in his knee this year. The pain that he endured did not hinder him from achieving his goal for this year, to drop his time to 24:16 seconds for a 50 freestyle race.



"Get speed, keep speed," is one of the sayings that the team tries to remember while getting prepared for a meet. Not only do they work hard to win, but they also work together. "I love the team. We are all one big family, and I never dread going to practice. I look forward to it because I know I'll have fun," Senior Kyle Schroeder said.

"It think they did amazing," Coach Ladd Downham said. "The team had excellent performances as they finished up the season. I was happy with all the effort that the team put forth to win and accomplish their goals."

"The coach is calm and really encourages us to keep going," Senior David Jordan said.

"The training does get tough, and you do get tired, but once you keep doing it, it comes very easy to you," Sophomore Jacob Pardus said. The boys made it to the sectional finals and did not advance any further.

"The girls' swimming and diving team grew closer with new members on the team." Senior Captain Jill Ross said.

Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and even some seniors joined the team this year.

"I expect them to work hard, never give up," Coach Downham said. In order to be dedicated to swimming, the girls had a tough workout ahead of them. The girls' training and conditioning lasted throughout autumn and part of winter. During the winter, the girls' swim team performed a Christmas based practice called "The Twelve Days of Christmas." During these days, the girls were given specific swims and dives to practice, representing each

The girls' season ended at sectionals placing seventh of ten.

Diving in head first



Turning her head to breathe, Senior Captain Jill Ross performs a freestyle stroke. "I've been dropping some time every practice," Ross said. Preparing for a meet helps Ross concentrate and focus on her strokes.



Kyle Schroeder Swimmer Senior

"Swimming is tough, but it's very rewarding. Be mentally tough. Many days you will feel like quitting, but you want to keep trying to accomplish the goal you set for yourself."

Share



Boys' Swimming and Diving Coach Ladd Downham

leadership

Nicholas Badali

Assistant Coach Sara Stallings, Jeremy Boyer, Jacob Pavel Front row: Charles Stokes Pyatt, David Osorio, Darren Blaylock, Jean Pierre Cardenas, Brandon Culver, David Rodriguez, Gershom Patton, Aaron Fuller, Jacob Pardus, Pavlo Shyrokov; Second row: David Verzike, Kevin Henry, Sheiby Newell, Brandi Wolak, Jacquelym Jones, Danielle Winbum, Nicholas Badali, Markus Kluga, Javaun Willis; Third row: Coach Stallings, Joshua Von Buleov, Christian Brunski, Zachary Phillips, Jordan Reaves, David Jordan, Anthony Turman, David Perkins, Clarence Hosea, Coach Kirsten Koharchik, Back row: Coach Boyer, Messay Crawford-Taylor, Randall Bullema, Jacob Caddick, Coach Downham, Justin Koenemann, Alexander Matthews, Kyle Schroeder, Coach Posch



Girls' Swimming and Diving Coach Ladd Downham

Assistant Coach Sara Stallings, Jeremy Boyer, Jacob Pavel First row: Emma Bics, Janay Olague, Staphanie Barnart, Imani Smith, Reginia Torres; Second row: Breyanna Turner, Rachel Baran, Alexandria Romanow, Deanna Venzke, Judia Bast, Michole Anderson, Kara Philips, Aerieyle Peterson, Destiny Yoder, Third row: Kennedy Wilck, Katsey Sajdera, Caitlynn Caddick, Brandi Wolak, Jacqueline Jones, Danielle Winburn, Sheby Lee, Taylor Pierce, Halliey Holden; Fourth row: Coach Stallings, Imani Sheby, Jill Ross, Katilyn Phillips, Jillian Sandefur, Kasie Antich, Jannafier Meley, Alyssa James, Cacach Kirsten Koharchik; Back row: Jeremy Boyer, Brittiney Brack, Maggle Connelly, Morgan Orosz, Coach Downham, Jeanette Burbage, Miranda Vega, Natalia Ooms, Coach Pavel.

Practicing each day, morning and after school, the wrestling team has improved greatly. They finished the season with a record of 19-4.

The nine wrestlers advancing to semi-state were Junior Kourtney Berry (189), Junior Michael Nickson (215), Junior Darryl Peppers (171), Freshman Michael Garza (103), Junior Adam Brodie (112), Junior Luis Padilla (130), Junior Zachary Sandefur (152), Senior Javier Avalos (145) and Sophomore Adam Garcia (119). The three wrestlers advancing to state were Berry, Sandefur and Garcia

"I am pretty confident about going to state. I think we might have a shot to place. When we get there, we are going to see what happens," Berry said. At state, Berry placed fifth. Sandefur and Garcia both lost in their first rounds.

Even though none of the wrestlers won a state title, going to state was still an accomplishment for them. Their hard and dedicated work will help them for next year.

"Before getting on the mat at state, I listened to 'Poker Face' and 'Firework.' Listening to a girl's voice helps me stay relaxed." Sandefur said.

As a coach for 11 years, Coach David Maldonado had 36 wrestlers advance. "I think the season went well. It did not end the way we wanted it to. For next year, if I would change anything, it would be to gain more experience,"

Standouts







sportsmanship Javier Avalos



Arthur Jacobs Varsity Senior

"When I was taking him down with a bear hug, I knew I had to make a move fast. Portage was not a hard school for me to match personally."

Share

Taking down competitors



Standing on the sideline, Coach David Maldonado tells the wrestlers what to do. "Next season more than anything, I would want their experience to help with the success for next year." Maldonado said. leadership MVP Kourtney Berry



Front row: Michael Garza, Adam Brodie, Emmanuel Brienno, Adam Garcia, John Costakis, Erick Acosta, Luis Padilla, Javier Avalos, Arthur Jacobs, Michael Spudic, Darry Peppers, Michael Martin, Second row: Mansoor Arties, Travis Norman, Etzabath Nucl. La'isera Smith, Alexia Pelerson, Christa Flores, Melissa Costakis, Jacqueline DeLeon, Talyanna Robinson, Samantha Hemandez, Stacy Martin-Ellisonr, Jalen Minor Third row: Michael Thompson, Coach Gene Biermann, Nathane Polezces, Trevon Norman, Matthew Hollins, Jacob Jara, Eric DeLuna, Zachary Sandufur, Salvador Higoradam Deven Lee, Michael Nickson, Coach Rob Petyko, Brandon Oliver, Fourth row: Coach Michael Lawrence, Alejandro Jara, Alejandro Acosta, Matcom Donley, Kourtney Berry, Robert Novoa, Jordan Dlaz, Coach David Maldonado; Back row: Brandon Spencer, George Papamihalakis, Trevon Williams, Adam Sherwinski, Gardos Dickerson, Thomas Sociato, Jahl Plome Fogle.



The Score Opponent LaPorte Duals LaPorte W W W W S-0 W W W W W Tst W Hammond High 2011 Wawasee Culver Valparaiso Portage Tom Cameron Invite Kankakee Valley Northwood Boone Grove West Lafayette Yorktown Rich East Tournament Chesterton Mishawaka Tournament 5th Crown Point Oakville Duals 3-2 Lake Central W W- 19 L- 4 DAC 2nd Michigan City W Sectional 1st Regional Duals Crown Point

Chastudent I matched from Portage had a strong grip,

and I just couldn't beat it.
John Costakis

everyone else on the



Before his match, Junior Darryl Peppers shakes his opponent's hand.
"While shaking hands, I think about the shake. Light shake is weak.
Good shake is hard," Peppers said. "During the match I wish I would have
listened to my coach more," he said.



To signify the victory over the Portage opponent, the referee raises Junior Luis Padilla's (130) hand . "I felt really good winning the match against Portage. My score was pretty good," Padilla said. "Before the match, I knew I would win."

The Score

105 W

104.725 5th

104.55 5th

Opponent Michigan City

Lowell /Hobart 105.5 W Lake Central 2011 105.9 W 100.2 L Ft. Wayne Concordia 105.675 L LaPorte 105.675 L Pirate Pride Invitation 105.25 L Portage 101.95 L Chesterton 103.6 L Crown Point 104.625 L Valparaiso

which watching all the older girls perform their skills, it inspired me to try

gymnastics Freshman Taylor Woods

DAC

Sectional

With a pushback pose, Senior Chandler Hill ends her floor routine. Hill competed during her senior year despite a hemiated back injury." almost could not compete because of my back." Hill said. Competing all flour years of high school, Hill's strengths are vault and floor.

Beginning with a pose, Senior Rebekah Rochefort prepares to start her floor routine. "Ending with the right dance moves and staying in sync with the music is one of the most difficult things about ending a floor routine," Rochefort said.





Gymnastics Coach Diane Roberts Front row: Hannah La

Front row: Hannah Lane, Chandler Hill, Army Aponte, Taylor Woods; Back row: Coach Derek Benakovich, Rebekah Rochefort, Kristina Goodman, Coach Roberts, Valerie Bly, Lauren Lamb, Coach Nicholas Roberts.



In the middle of her beam routine, Sophomore Amy Aponte raises and points her right foot. "What keeps me focused while competing is my inner gymnast," "Aponte said. Aponte is first in Na class, and she has competed on the gymnastics team for two years.



mental attitude

Amv Aponte

leadership Valerie Bly

Stamina, commitment, determination and talent are four qualities that any high school athlete must posses in order to be on a team. But for a gymnast, there are a lot more things that come along with the uniform.

In the sport of gymnastics, a gymnast must not only be committed and determined, but she must also know how to fall and get back up. Because many injuries can occur, it is extremely important for a gymnast to continue to improve and recover from a long fall.

The 2011 Merrillville gymnastics team began their season with high hopes and expectations. Unlike the previous year, the team hadn't suffered from any major

"It made the season less stressful and a little easier," Senior Valerie Bly said.

Although there were only a few minor injuries, the girls still remained conscious of their mistakes and

continued to focus on improvement. "It can get really frustrating at times, but I just push through it," Senior Chandler Hill said.

The team continued practicing hard and perfecting their skills, finishing the

season with three wins. "I think we did good as a team, but

we could've done better," Hill said.

With three seniors graduating this year, the remaining members of the team must work hard to make sure they deliver in 2012.

"It's going to be hard seeing them go because the team kind of bonded into this little family," Freshman Taylor Woods said.

Beaming for the top spot





Kristina Goodman Freshman

"I put so much time and commitment into gymnastics, why would I quit now?"



Off the beam and performing a wolf jump, Sophomore Hannah Lane has to jump and position her legs "just so" to earn points during the competition. Lane has been part of Diane Roberts' gymnastics program since first grade.



and hands in position, Sophomore Lauren Lamb executes a stag jump as part of her floor routine. "I do intend on doing gymnastics throughout all of high school because if I quit. I would miss it." Lamb said. With the season's end, Lamb said she already has plans for next season. "My plan for next year is to work past what I can already do," Lamb added.

With arms stretched



Making a comeback from shin splints to sprained ankles, Senior Valerie Bly ends her floor routine with the "Merrillville Crawl," a dance skill every gymnast must perform in her routine. "Receiving a personal best on floor and beam were some of my biggest accomplishments this season," said Dancing. Stunts. Cheers. Jumps. Merrillville High School's cheerleading squad completed a grueling season with the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year.

Their challenge started with summer conditioning when they practiced every day except Wednesday.

They also attended a cheerleading camp in Valparaiso, where they learned the basics of cheer such as jumping, tumbling and chants.

As a result of their early hard work, the team won Top Chant, Top Cheer, Most-Spirited, the Herkie Award and the NCA Bid.

Several individual cheerleaders were voted for the All-American Award, which is given to girls with excellent sportsmanship, jumping and yelling.

"Summer conditioning is tough. During our 5 to 8 p.m. practices, we run 12 laps, do 500 crunches and 100 to150 jumps," Senior Dayna Young said. The start of the football and basketball seasons kept the girls active as well.

During football season, people did not see as much of the cheerleaders from the stands, but for basketball the girls were closer to the fans and added dancing to their routine.

The movement into basketball season also saw the addition of boys to the squad. While some girls saw the boys as a distraction, others said they kept the team focused and encouraged a competitive spirit.

"The boys break the ice," Senior Raevyn Harper said.

Altogether the girls felt they had a successful season. They said it was especially satisfying when they helped young girls who later told them that they were positive role models.

"I can't imagine cheer not being in my life," Harper said, "This year we've had one of the best squads since I've been bern."



sportsmanship Erin Bielak



MVP leadership Katelynn Usher



Peeking over the pyramid



Varsity Cheerleaders

Coaches Lori Govert and Jeni Pedroza Front row: Danse Baskin, Reavyn Harper, Second row: Shawnay Lardydeli, Jasmin Pollard, Jasmin Grifflin, Erin Blelak, Briana Robinson; Third row: Charizma Jackson, Jasmin McGee, Blanca Portis, Knin Thomton, Jazmyn Thomas; Back row: Katelynn Usher, William Isabel, Dayna Young, William Akins III, Kayla Greene, Payton Parker, Whitney Reese.



JV Cheerleading

Coach LaToya Edwards

Front row: Tavia East, India Williams, Breia Givens; Back row: Morgan Boyd, Kathryn Sarsfield, Isabella Stevens, Aurielle Carson. Not pictured: Sydney Sanchez.





Senior Raevyn Harper

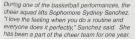
"At camp we learn different team things, like all of our personalities bonding and working as a team."



memory was going to state. We got to decorate our faces with makeup and jewels. It sounds

jewels. It sounds creepy, but it was fun. Junior Kayla Greene







Looking up into the stands, Junior Kayla Greene and Seniors Erin Blelak and Jasmin Griffin cheer the football team to victory. "I like going to games and getting the crowd involved," Blelak said. In addition to cheering, Blelak likes having bonding sessions with her team at sleepovers and small parties.



The Score 2011

Marian Invitational Pom Clark Middle School Invitational Pom 66.97 (2nd) Jazz 77.40 (1st) Munster Invitational Нір Нор 69.17 (1st) Jazz Kahler Middle School Invitational 72.40 (2nd) Hip Hop Lake Central Invitational 73.30 (2nd) 72.30 (4th) Pom 74.10 (2nd) Hip Hop Jazz IHSDTA North Regional (Mishawaka) 81.30 (3rd) 75.90 (5th **GOH QiH** 72.20 (4th) Jazz **IHSDTA State Team** Championships 74.08 (7th) Pom Jazz 73.54 (7th)

Dance has allowed me to meet new people with different personalities. It has helped me build a lot of new

relationships. J Junior Mekvla Nelson Senior Lindsay Sanchez holds her pom pons while performing a pre-game routine. She led the team this season as one of the Varsity team captains. Sanchez is upset to have to leave the team she became so close with this year. "The first day there was chemistry," Sanchez said. "We all clicked from the start, and we've been supportive of each other throughout the season."



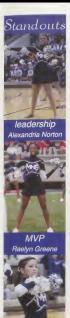




While she holds her leg extension, Sophomore Alyssa Smith performs her favorite dance style at one of the basketball games." I enjoy jazz because you get to express how you feel, "Smith said. She said she loved spending time with her teammates this season. "They're like sisters away from home," Smith said, "and our coach is just like another mother to me."



Opening a tootball game with the school song, Junior Belia Mercado performs the difficult routine she and her teammates mastered. 'The school song took us all a while to learn," Mercado said, "but, luckily, we all got it eventually." She is happy to have joined the team. "It has made me want to dance for the rest of my life," Mercado said.



dedication

Lindsav Sanchez

With only six returning members and three seniors, Senior Captains Alexandria Norton and Lindsay Sanchez knew they had a lot to work on.

Most of the team was inexperienced and had never danced on a team. before.

"We had to work on everything. literally," Norton said.

From summer practices to football and basketball games, the girls had ample time to practice and perfect their routines.

As the competition season approached, the girls felt very confident they would go far. The first competition took place at Marian High School, and the team walked away with a first-place trophy and was excited to continue proving itself.

The team walked away with a handful of first places at competitions, building the team's confidence

At Mishawaka, for the North Regional Competition, the team pulled together and received high scores in the Advanced Pom and Jazz categories.

On March 18, the team left for Indianapolis for the State Team Championships at New Castle High School, which were the following day.

The team was excited to perform one last time but disappointed after receiving seventh out of eight places in both categories.

With more experienced dancers next year, they will continue to compete in the Advanced division in hopes of advancing to and placing higher at the State Team Championships.

Dancing with the stars



"Leave it all on the floor." The varsity dance team applies one of their mottos to this emotion-filled routine. They performed the jazz routine for the school at a basketball game for the first time in the winter of 2011.



Alexandria Norton Varsity Captain Senior

"I will never forget the first time we preformed jazz at a basketball game. We were all really nervous and had low confidence. Once we got on the floor, it all went away. We felt each other's emotions, and when we were done, our coach cried for us. It was really



touching."



Varsity Pom Pons Coach Meiissa Sickinger

Front row: Gina Lee, Khari Coker, Marshawna Kendrick; Second row: Leslie Easterling, Beila Mercado, Raelyn Greene, Donneisha Owens, Camisha Mitcheii; Back row: Mekyla Neison. Jenniyne Adams, Lindsay Sanchez, Alexandria Norton, Alyssa Smith.



Junior Varsity Pom Pons Coach Meiissa Sickinger

Front row: Ja'Vai Holcomb, Brittani Hood, Lauren Blackwell, Simone Barron; Second row: Kaylyn Riley, Lauren Kiser, Larissa Harris, Raven Smith, Mikaiia Lomax; Back row: Hadiya Bowen, Brinesha Jackson, Paula Akinrinade.

One competitive sport that can be time consuming and demands a good mental attitude and knowledge is bowling, believes Sophomore Carlysle Larson.

With each other's help and support throughout the season, the team achieves success. "I love bowling, and that's why I try to play as much as possible," Sophomore Marissa Taylor said.

In order to be on the team, bowlers must try out. "The tryouts consist of bowling three games, but no one really gets cut." Taylor said.

The players perform many stretch and exercise routines before a game or match. "As a team, we stretch our legs, arms and backs, practice some dry approaches and just go through the motions and loosen up," Larson said.

Both teams practice during the week at Stardust II in Merrillville. The boys' team meets Wednesday and the girls meet Tuesday and Thursday.

"We usually just work on whatever the coach feels we need to," Senior Nicholas Schuffert said. The boys' team played well this year and the girls placed first in their sectional. Taylor and Junior Robin Jakich advanced individually after sectionals.

Keep On Rolling



Carlysle Larson Sophomore

"I enjoy bowling a lot. I always thought it would just be a hobby for me, but it is much more than that."



At Superbowl in Crown Point, Sophomore Marissa Taylor throws a strike. "When I go up to bowl. I walk slowly to the foul line and hold the ball close to mv bodv." Taylor said. Taylor has an average of 150 points per game. Taylor joined the team during her freshman year and tries to bowl on the weekends as much as she can.





As he comes up from releasing his bowling hall, Senior Nicholas Schulfert watches as it rolls toward the pins. "If you intend on joining the bowling team, I'd advise to practice continually," Schulfert said. Schulfert has been bowling for the team for three years. One challenge for Schulfert is finding where he wants to throw the ball.



With only a lew years of experience, student trainer Junior Olshianna Doss wraps JV basketball player Junior Frank Jefferson. "With all of the cute boys coming in, Sean and Sue are what make me focused," Doss said. Doss has been a student trainer for two years. She has many jobs, but she said wrapping is what she does best.





Armietic Irainers Front row: Alyssa Nymeyer, Olshianna Doss, Jasmine Cleveland; Back row: William Akins III, Jada Jones, Brittney Bass

Wrap It Up

Athletic training plays the backbone in all sports. It not only provides instructions to students on how to help athletes, but it also shows athletes how to help themselves. This helps the athletes prepare for their upcoming seasons and events.

"There are a lot of student athletes, so we need as much help as we can get," Head Trainer Mr. Sean Hudson said.

With only two instructors, Mr. Hudson and Ms. Sue Hayes, student trainers provide those needed helping hands. There are about 10 student trainers assisting in winter and fall sports, and about 3 assisting in spring sports.

"The students are crucial in helping me get done what needs to be done." Mr. Hudson said.

The student trainers help out at games, therapy sessions, and during the instructor's classes. Not only do they help out during classes and such, but student trainers are also taught how to wrap and treat injuries.

"They really do help with all of the work that has to be done," Ms. Hayes said.

"I've been doing athletic training for a while now," Junior Olshiana Doss said.

"And it can be difficult at times," Doss said.

Besides all of the hands on work, the students also learn things that they can benefit from to help them later on in their careers.

"Students actually get a taste of what is expected of them in similar careers," Mr. Hudson said.



Intent on taping Senior gymnast Valerie Bly, assistant trainer Ms. Sue Hayes first applies pre-wrap to the shin and then wraps it in Coach tape. I'was always trying to help people who were injured." Ms. Hayes said, "and then I found out about athletic training." Hayes works with athletes in football and soccer in the fall, basketball, wrestling and gymnastics in the winter; and baseball and track in the spring.

The Score Opponent Valparaiso 0 - 1 0 - 2Crown Point Homewood-8th Flossmoor Invite LaPorte 11 - 10 West Lafayette 7th Relays 15 - 17 Chesterton Portage 15 - 18 Michigan City 16 - 18 Lake Central 16 - 19 DAC 4th

2011

3rd

5th

k to me is mentally harder because when you get tired, it allows you to

Sectional

Regional

keep going ? Sophomore Julian Neal

After Senior Denzel Pierce passes him the baton, Junior William Isabell takes off to get the best time in the 400-meter relay. "Listening to music



Sophomore Austin Jamerson shows perfect form to clear the hurdle. Competina in the high jump event, Jamerson won first place with a personal best at sectionals. In the high jump, he jumped 6'6" at the state tournament and tied for third.



Sticking his landing, Senior Denzel Pierce competes in the long jump, fighting to reach every foot of the sandpit. "My acceleration is definitely a strength of mine. It helps me with the 400-meter relay and 100-meter dash," Pierce said.



A two-year track team member, Junior Anthony Palm prepares to throw the shotput during the meet against Crown Point and Valparaiso. "My coaches tell me straight up what I need to do to improve my skills," Palm said. With the help of his coaches, Palm's distance for the event has increased to 50 feet and a ninth place finish at regionals.





Rahim Conwell



Breaking records and trimming time have been the goals of this year's track

The boys had to work hard to make up for the loss of many seniors.

"We were hoping to do as well as possible and win a team sectional title," Coach Brian Past said.

"I knew we lost a lot of seniors. and I was okay last year, so I knew I had to step up and contribute points to my team and try to be a leader." Sophomore Austin Jamerson said.

The seniors had a record-breaking year. Senior Rahim Conwell broke the Duneland Athletic Conference record for the 200-meter dash with a time of 21.74 seconds

"I watched the record being broken in middle school, so it was pretty cool to break it myself," Conwell said

With many runners returning, the hopes for next season are promising. This year, the team finished third in sectionals and nine athletes advanced to regionals.

At the state track finals at Indiana University in Bloomington, Conwell placed seventh in the 200-meter with a time of 22.27 and tenth in the 100-meter with a time of 11 23

Jamerson tied for third in the high jump and the 400-meter relay team of Conwell, Junior William Isabell, Seniors Michael Joiner and Denzel Pierce placed 12th.

seconds away from state finals



most improved

Caleb Pirtle



In an attempt to win the high jump, Senior Anton Redmon arches his back to clear the bar. "Joining track this year helped me stay in shape for basketball and football," Redmon said. Even though this was Redmon's first season competing in track, he advanced to regionals with a fifth-place finish.



Conor Hill Long Distance Freshman

"I like running a longer distance because I am more into endurance."





the track meet, Coach Brian Past brings out the hurdles. "For about ten years, i was an assistant coach for Coach (Jim) Johnston. I recently just became the head coach of the 2011 boys' track team, Past said. Unlike other coaches, Past does not have any superstitions. He just wants the athletes to work hard and try to win.

Preparing for



In the 1600-meter relay, Junior Trent Turner starts the race off the blocks. "You have to mentally tell yourself that you are physically ready even when you may be tired," Turner said. At the dual meet against Crown Point and Valparaiso, the relay team of Turner, Senior Rahim Conwell, Junior William Isabell and Sophomore Don Taylor ran a time of

With a more focused group, the girls' team sprinted through a season of improvements.

The team made careful selections of their team members. The team lost some members, but regained their numbers, which included freshmen.

Track and field includes many events. including pole vault, shotput and discus, as well as several sprinting and distance events.

The girls believed this season held more accomplishments than last year.

The first indoor meet of the season was against Portage and was canceled, but the following indoor meet against

Crown Point led the girls to a successful win of 69-63.

The track team placed fourth at the Chesterton regional. The girls were disappointed by this, but it will push them to better themselves.

This year, three athletes qualified to go to state. Juniors Nakel McClinton, Jaleesa Holmes and Alexandra Domoras competed at Indiana University in Bloomington.

McClinton advanced for shotput and discus. Domoras for pole vault and Holmes for the 100-meter run.

"I'm glad I went further than last vear." said Holmes.

Standouts laleesa Holmes leadership Ashley Jamerson most improved Natalie Warren

making it back to state



Christina Davies Senior

"I just like pushing myself to the limit. The harder I push myself, the more accomplished I feel.

Share



To clear the bar, Junior pole vaulter Alexandra Domoras turns her body to fall back on to the mats. At regionals in Chesterton, Domoras jumped 11' and advanced to the state tournament, where she tied for 16th jumping 10'6". "I just push myself harder and try to get higher every time," Domoras said.





With long and precise strides, Junior Jaleesa Holmes sprints and leaps through the 100-meter hurdles. During regionals at Chesterton, Holmes reached a personal best of 14.98 seconds, advancing to the state tournament, "My goal for state would be to lower my time to 14.5 seconds," Holmes said. Falling less than a second short of her goal, Holmes placed 10th at state with a time of 15.27 seconds.



After receiving her medal at the state finals at Indiana University in Bloomington, Junior Nakel McClinton stands on the podium. McClinton placed second in discus with a throw of 137'. "I was really happy that I did my personal best in discus at the state meet where it's most important," she said. She also placed 17th in shotput with a throw of 37' 7.5". McClinton placed first at sectionals in both events and came in second and third at regionals in discus and shotput. respectively. This season, McClinton also broke her own school record in discus twice.





each other, teammates in the 800-meter run. "You have to get your mind in the race and same time concentrate on what you need to do to accomplish your Both girls advanced to

once I have the baton I

The Score Valparaiso 67 - 64 L Crown Point 69 - 63 W LaPorte 88 - 44 W West Lafayette Relays 5th Chesterton 73 - 59 L Portage 68 - 64 W Michigan City 90 - 38 W Lake Central 74 - 58 L DAC 2011 4th Sectional 2nd

know that with our training and practices, the girls were physically and mentally prepared. Coach Jeff Fairbairn

4th



Leaping high and landing hard, Sophomore Anjelica Peppers competes in the long jump event at the Tri-City meet. Peppers jumped a personal best of 15-3.50 and placed 12th at regionals. In addition to the long jump. Peppers also runs the 100-meter dash and is the anchor leg for the 4x100-meter race.



Regional

The Score

Opponent

Hobart 8 - 1 L 7 - 0 W Boone Grove Hammond High 23 - 5 W Munster 8 - 1 W Griffith Highland 20118-3W Chesterton LaPorte Valparaiso 3-2W Portage 16 - 5 L Crown Point Michigan City 3-1L Highland Lake Central 9-0L 14 - 4 L Kankakee Valley Chesterton 12 - 1 L LaPorte 4 - 2 W Portage 8-3L Hanover Central 9-7L 7-6L Valparaiso Lake Central 10 - 0 L Bishop Noll 7-2W Michigan City 5-4L Crown Point 3-0L 8-4W9-0L West Lafayette Andrean 115L Sectional 6 - 1 L

> W - 8 L - 21

Determined to bring home a win, Senior Christopher Knight attempts to throw an opponent out at first base. Knight finished the season with 22 hits and a batting average of .229.



Taking his lead off first base, Senior Kenneth Wright prepares to steal second base. Wright plans to continue playing baseball throughout college.





With perfect form, Senior Darren Blaylock swings and hits the ball. Blaylock's batting average was .233 and his on-base percentage was .370. In the 2011 season, he hit 14 singles, scored 7 runs and had 5 runs batted in.



In a Duneland Conference game against Michigan City, Senior Shortstop Chris Knight awaits the throw to force an out. The Pirates lost the game 3-1. Knight had 13 stolen bases during the 2011 season.

Standouts



MVPNicholas Feliciano



sportsmanship Chris Kniaht

Starting the season off rough, the baseball team has managed to stay dedicated and play rough throughout their season.

With the continuous rainy weather. the team had to practice efficiently and make up all their conference games.

"It's been tough, but we made up all our conference games. We just used the football field to practice in when the field was flooded," said Head Coach Mark Schellinger.

The team has only one real goal and that was to continue to do better than the previous years.

The team's family bond has allowed them to grow as a team and to stay positive always no matter the outcome. The team had wins mid-season that allowed them to have an open mind about doing good in the post-season.

"When we beat Valpo, it felt good, but it made us feel even better when we beat LaPorte because that's our coach's hometown, and we made him proud," Senior Kenneth Wright said.

The team finished the season with a 6-1 loss to Portage in the first round of sectionals.

After this season, the boys will lose eight players.

strike 'em out



Alex Quijano

leadership

Darren Blaylock





Discussing the next game play, Sophomores Matthew Warren and Jose Carbajal encourage Senior pitcher Nicholas Feliciano on the mound.



Nicholas Feliciano Pitcher

No. 21

"The season is starting to turn around, and we're starting to compete with some of the best teams in the area."





Junior Varsity Baseball

Conach Joseph O'Connell Front row: Tyler Schieve, Brian Whitten, Monte Hamlet, Daniel Jimenez, Joseph Traina; Second row: Craig Burns, Jose Gonzalez, Jon Burns, Alexander Swierc, Brandon Oliver, Joaquín Gomez; Back row: Coach John Kwiatkowski, Anthony Griffin, Nathaniel Gilham, Joseph Cowser, David Hertl, Bobby Kammer, Coach O'Connell.



Varsity Baseball Coach Mark Schellinger

Front row: Darren Blaylock, Christopher Knight, Rudolph Sanchez, Manager Bradley Brayfield, Tyler Kepchar, Kyle Strom, Rodney Trigg; Second row: Dean Davis, Kenneth Wright, Ian Stacks, Alex Quijano, Nicholas Feliciano, Aaron Dye; Back row: Coach Schellinger, Matthew Warren, Jonathon Feliciano, Jose Carbajal, Coach Dave Byard.

Starting off the season, the girls' softball team lost their first game to Griffith, but came back and won the game against Hammond 19-0.

"One goal that I have for this season is becoming a better batter and another is to learn the first-base position,"

Sophomore catcher Erica Homeier said.

Senior pitcher and second baseman Jessica Martin and Junior outfielder Inesha Smith both suffered injuries.

"While I had the injury, I did fall behind in conditioning and wasn't able to do as many softball activities, and also couldn't do lower body workouts", Martin said.

During the second to last game against Boone Grove, Smith twisted her ankle.

"One of my goals this year is to be a

good athlete and show how fast I am", Smith said.

"My goal for this summer is to get signed to Division 1 and raise my number of home runs", Junior third baseman Mercedes McClendon said.

"An achievement that I had this season has been making allconference player and honorable mention as a sophomore", McClendon said.

"Our goal was to have a better record for the season. It stayed the same, but we did improve in different areas," Sophomore pitcher Jessica Vasquez said.

"One key thing that you have to remember is that it's not just a game. It's competition. Once you put the jersey on, it's not all fun and games," said Martin.

Standouts leadership Jessica Vasquez sportsmanship Megan Dicken Inesha Smith

working toward victories



Jessica Martin Second baseman Senior

"My goal for the team is for us to win the first round on sectionals."

Share



As Coach Jacob Stafford gives the team a pep talk, the team listens. "Softball gives me a lot of benefits. It helps me learn how to play as a team." Sophomore outfielder Julie Ross said.





Varsity Softball Coach Jacob Stafford

Front row: Gabriela Prence, Inselna Smith, Blenca Blanchard, Mercedes McClendon, Jessica Martin, Ashley Hansbury, Jessica Vasquez; Back row: Jorden Buhse, Coach Mark Reid Jr., Julie Ross, Megan Dicken, Coach Stafford, Amanda Banashak, Selena Diaz, Coach Mark Reid Sr., Kattlyn Phillip



JV Softball Coach Heidi Dulla

Front row: Felecia Martinez, Samantha Hernandez, Nichole Anderson, Airielli Browning, Lauren Bistrican, Rachel Baran; Back row: Erica Homier, Natalia Oons, Kasey Stewart, Coach Dulla, Mia Patikas, Myranda Harris, Kennedy Wilck.



outfielder Inesha Smith dad got me interested in softball because he

The Score

Opponent

Griffith 5 - 0 L Bishop Noll 8-5L Kouts 6-5L Michigan City 10 - 0 L Hebron 13 - 6 L Crown Point 8-3L Chesterton LaPorte 10-0L Portage 12 - 0 L Valparaiso Lake Central 3-0L 12 - 3 L

Kankaee Valley (DH) 10 - 0 L, 10 - 0 L Michigan City Crown Point 6-4L 10-0L Chesterton 14-5L LaPorte 14 - 0 L Portage 13 - 2 L

Valparaiso 5-3L Lake Central 16-4L Andrean 10-1L Hammond 19 - 0 W Boone Grove 8-2L Sectionals 12-2L

W- 1 L- 23

goal for next year is to make varsity and hopefully be the starter for center field. Sophomore



With dirt flying in the air, Junior Mercedes McClendon slides into home plate. "It feels good to slide into home plate knowing you just scored for your team," the third baseman said. "Always do your best and never give



To better see the ball after the batter popped up, Sophomore catcher Erica Homier lifts her catcher's mask. "Being in softball really helps you gain teamwork, meet new people and build character," Homier said. Homier's mom brought her into softball in the second grade at Hidden Lake.

The Score

Opponent

Lake Central 185 - 165 L 185 - 152 L LaPorte KV Invite 185 - 201 W Kankakee Valley 190 - 163 L Portage Chesterton 182 - 185 W 171-216 W Bishop Noll Michigan City 176 - 158 L 176 - 162 L Chesterton Boone Grove Invite 2nd Crown Point 179 - 166 L 179 - 149 L Valparaiso LC Invite 6th **DAC Invite** 8th 180 - 156 L LaPorte Bishop Noll 171 -216 L 166 - 171 L Hobart 4th Sectionals 2011

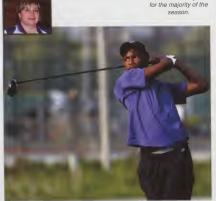
seniors.

At Forest Park in a tri-meet against Valparaiso and Crown Point, Senior Michael Gillis follows through after a putt. "When I putt, my main focus is to make sure I get the best read of the green, and that's how I knock putts down," Gillis said. Gillis played Varsity spot three for most of the season, and he lowered his score by 25 strokes since his freshman vear



"I was shocked when I found out I was playing varsity this year." Sophomore Michael Chabes said. In his second year of golf, he made the varsity cut

It was really a pleasure coaching you guys this season, and you guys really made me proud, especially you Coach Patti Tubbs



In his backswing, Senior Arlen Sims looks at the fairway to see the flight his ball is taking. "This summer, I really worked hard to get where I am now," Sims said. Sims played varsity number one and two for the whole season averaging 44.05 on nine holes, tied for 1st best on the team this season.



Chipping up to the green, Junior Mansoor Arifee looks up and mentally prepares for the next shot. This is the first year Arifee was on the golf tear and he said he enjoyed being a part of the team. "All the guys on the team were very welcoming and cool, so it was an easy transition to the team," Arifee said.



best attitude

Michael Gillis

leadership

Mansoor Arifee

In the final chapter of the late rebuilding stage, the boys' golf team hoped to make some noise in the Duneland Athletic Conference.

With new coach Patti Tubbs, the boys worked hard during the off-season and planned on taking a sectional title in the spring

Seniors Malik Muhammad, Arlen Sims and Michael Gillis, the only three returning varsity players, were counted on heavily to step into the roles of the one, two and three spots this season, while Sophomore Naim Muhammad filled out the last permanent spot on the varsity roster.

"Early in the season, we focused on tying the loose knots of our game, and throughout the season, our game really started to develop," co-captain Sims said.

The team started to come around mid-season when they lowered their scores while becoming more competitive with scores in the 170s.

"We just practiced, practiced and practiced until we felt like we could compete with the powerhouse teams, such as Valparaiso and Crown Point," co-caption Gillis said.

The team started practice in the early winter and continued every day until the end of the season, so much they even had a motto they called "No Days Off."

The team ended their season placing 4th at sectionals one off the cut. Sophomore Naim Muhammad continued his season at regionals.

no days off



After hitting the ball, Sophomore Naim Muhammad focuses on getting the ball in prime position for his next shot." I started playing golf when my dad and my brother took me out with them in the 9th grade, "Muhammad said. In his sophomore year, he made it to regionals with a season low 8th grade."



Mansoor Arifee Varsity 5 & 6 Junior

"Golf is a very hard sport and I didn't figure that out until I joined the team this year, but I love the challenge."





"I love my new irons because I hit them pretty good and they have a lot of forgiveness," Senior Malik Muhammad said. Muhammad has been pleving golf competitively for four years, and this season, he moved up to the number one varsity spot. "When I moved up as number one, it made me feel more accomplished, but I knew I had to work even harder," Muhammad said.



Boys' Golf Coach Patti Tubbs

Front row: Roland Williams IV, Monsoor Arilee, Kennard Turner, Taylor Bryant; Second row: Michael Chabes, Michael Gillis, Mackenzie Pearson, Timothy Shelton, Arlen Sims; Back row: Coach Tubbs, Naim Muhammad, Jeremy Baldwin, Malik Muhammad, Assistant Coach John Tubbs. With new players, a new season, a new outlook and a new coach, the girls' golf team was hard at work. As a first-year golf coach, Patti Tubbs was determined to improve the team. With improvement the first priority, team bonding was strongly encouraged.

"I wanted to bring the team closer together," said Junior Jeanette Burbage.

With new players added, the team was hoping to make memorable moments.

"My favorite memory is when coach stopped for the railroad tracks [on the bus] and a golf ball rolled out the door," Freshman Maggie Connelly said.

Many memories were made this year. However, the team needed to focus on the outcome of the season. "I get motivated to play golf for the 'after feeling," said Junior Lauren Carniello.

Players say golf has many positive effects, but also disadvantages that can hurt a player's game.

"Getting the ball to go straight is the hardest part of golf," Connelly said.

While others get motivated through charms, others have superstitions that bring them luck on the course.

"When I tee the ball up, I have to make sure the ball is completely white with no words showing," Burbage said.

With the loss of two seniors, the team has high hopes that next year will be a great year.

"I play golf because it is relaxing, fun, and no physical training is needed," Carniello said.

With patience, comes par



Aurielle Powell Varsity No. 5 Junior

"Golf can be challenging because there are a lot of rules and regulations that you have to follow. The hardest part is getting the ball closest to the hole without a lot of strokes."

Share



After teeing off, Junior Lauren Carniello observes the yardage of her ball. Carniello also has many golf supersitions. "I switch balls, I can't wear a hat unless I'm doing badly and I take my driver out before my tee," sald Carniello.



Standouts

most improved

Jeanette Burbage

MVP Maggie Connelly



Hitting the ball, Junior Jeanette Burbage hopes her ball does not land in the sand trap. Burbage has been playing for the girls' golf team for two years and uses the same strategy for every game. I just aim left because my ball goes right, so it lands right in the middle of the fairway most of the time," Burbage said.



Girls' Golf Coach Patti Tubbs

Front row: Marissa Taylor, Lauren Camiello, Jibria Ali; Second row: Jillian Simmons, Kelsey Sajdera, Aurielle Powell, Maggie Connelly, LaTonya Harrison; Back row: Assistant Coach John Tubbs, Natieka Mathews, Jeanette Burbage, Kelsey Washburn, Coach Tubbs.





The Score

Opponent

Boone Grove 261 - 233 W Rensselear Central 230 - 209 L DAC Invite 8th North Newton 238 - 221 L Clark 282 - 218 W Portage Lowell 247 - 199 L 220 - 178 L 219 - 212 L LaPorte Munster 235 - 195 L 253 - 183 L Chesterton 242 - 203 L Hobart Michigan City 242 - 220 L Crown Point 222 - 192 L Valparaiso 242 - 184 L Lake Central 222 - 196 L 228 - 200 L Highland Griffith 237 - 232 W

L - 12

5th

varsity. Her best score throughout the season was 53.

Mestrategy was to get the ball as far as I could with the

least amount of strokes." Kelsey Sajdera

Sectional



Keeping it positive, Freshman Maggie Connelly hits the ball onto the green. Maggie is the only freshman who played No. 1 for the varsity team. Connelly has a few golf superstitions. "My Merrillville golf hat is unlucky, and I have to wear pink to do well," Connelly said.



While teeing off, Senior Kelsey Sajdera observes her ball as it flies through the air. Sajdera played No. 5 for varsity. She has no superstitions. "I do not have any superstitions about golf, even though I do like to play with one brand of ball," she said.



Boys and Girls Track

Breyanna Wilson; Back row: Christina Davies, Nakel McClinton, Austin Jamerson, Luis Lopez, Mike Hoffman, Brian Past, Jeff Fairbarin, Ben Daniel, Aaron Crawn, Anton Redmon, Ashley Jamerson, Brianna Thompson, Jahmia Sutherland, Trent Turner, Peter Berlanga, Travante' Cooper, Anthony Palm, William Isabell, Denzel Pierce, Jordan Diaz, Alejandro Perez, Jaleesa Holmes, Whitney Resse, Mya Mayfield, Arrisa Allen, Markel McMurray, Joshua Perry, Lawrence Riley, Jacob Styx, Nathaine Polezces, Kharl Reed, Bruce Thomas, Reginald Turner, Leeah Cooper, Sabrina Abrams; Fith row Smith, Taylor Gaddyr, Second row: A'Leah Scott, Taishe Abrams, Ashley Gray, Marcellus, Joiner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Damien Taylor, Ronald Woods, Victoria Collins, Rachel Walton, Shermika Winstonner, Darryl Peppers, Darryl Front row: Shawnay Lardyell, Arny Aponte, Anjelika Poppers, Natalie Warren, Taylar Worrell, Naeemah White, Rashonda Brooks, Jazmyn Thomas, Jasmine Cleveland, Kara Philips, Taneejah Coaches Brian Past and Jeff Fairbarin nari Smith, Sixth row. Brianna Scott, Angela Hopkins, Ricky Armstrong, Tristan Coghill, Jacob Caddick, Jeffery Colby, Corey Johnson, Caleb Pittle, Josh Haynes, Julian Neal, Aalinah Casteberry, hanie Samuels; Third row: Shaquita Dillard, Spree Lang, Jorge Gutlerrez, Kenjir Nangin, Keon Gibson, Byron Taylor, Andre Walker, Brandon Culver, Gershom Patton, Valerie Bly: Fourth rows



Varsity Football Coach Zac Wells

Jared Earwin, Jaylen Harris, Christian Pearson, Michael Nickson, Michael Jones, Dominic Alderson, Marquise Spencer, Eugene Dykes, Aaron Dye, Logan Jake Stafford, Zach Sliwa, Joe O'Connell, Jeff Eaton, Dennis Hamilton, Mariah Portis, Simone Portis, Olshianna Doss, Joesph Traina; Fourth row: Jamaa Dallas Wilson, Denzel Pierce, Jory Cunningham, Robert Robinson, Darien Gomick, Timothy Grayson Jr., Carlos Jenkins Jr., Johnte Maffett; Fifth row: Ian Jacob Raspopovich, Kendrick Williams Jr., Cortez Sims, William Isabell, Brandon Spencer, Adam Sherwinski, Tyler Kepchar, Brian Walker, Colby Tramble. Gatewood, Michael Carpenter Jr., Jonathan Floyd, Brandon Baldwin, Larry Cooper, Travis Norman, Christian Brunski, Anthony Luckett, Joseph Blockson. Back row: Joesph Cowser, John Burns IV., Adrian Robinson, Rodney Mitchell, Michael Joiner, Roman Salas, Anton Redmon, Jonathon Feliciano, Carlos Weacham, Bruce Brown Jr., Andre Walker, Derek Taylor Jr., Bruce Thomas, Anton West Jr., Darryl Peppers, Eric Davis, Jurrae Jones; Second row: Eric Dickerson, Lachapelle Bradley, Matthew Neal, Matthew Sobczak, Zachary Raspopovich, Paul Carey, Dante Mister, Trevon Williams, Oyinmiebi Deidigha, Front row: Darius Dabadee, Michael Reed, Brandon Harris, Payton Parker, Dorian Funches, De'Quan West, Gregory Brousseau, Jordan Turley, Kevin Hubbard; Third row: Brittney Bass, Taylor Smith, Makayla Webster, Hannah Webster, Mark Schellinger, Sean Hudson, Joe Atria, Mike Neal, Zac Wells. Stacks, Cleveland Lomax, Daniel Jankuloski, Alejandro Acosta Jr., Anthony Disco, Kourtney Berry, Anthony DiGangi, Michael Dicken, Matthew Warren, Jackson, Eric DeLuna, Bryant Isabell, Delaun Kirk, Kevin Wilkerson, Sir-James Joiner III., Tyler Scheive, Joshua Haynes, Elbryn Goode, Caleb Pirtle, Alonzo Charles, Julian Neal.

Performing Arts

C

From contests to concerts, from fundraising to fieldtrips, the members of the four choral groups have had a busy school year.

Voices worked in harmony to present the annual concert, "Christmas Time is Here." Friends and families filled Reinhart Auditorium on December 16, 2010. The audience watched the students as they sang and danced across the stage to holiday songs.

Months of practice and hard work were put into the performance.

Each choir does special things throughout the year. The Varsity Choir is now a co-ed class, combining both girls and boys new to choir. It helps students get started. The classmates learn things such as sight singing.

The intermediate class, known as Concert Choir, includes girls and boys who have already been in Varsity Choir. This is where the students are able to progress and figure out where they stand as singers.

Both groups use a variety of music, anything from classical to contemporary, and present four concerts during the school year.

Advanced students try out to become members of Vocalteens and Velveteens. The Vocalteens do more singing than dancing, while the Velveteens sing and dance.

For the first time in school history, 39 singers competing at the Indiana State School Music Association state contest in February won gold medals. Twenty Division 1 soloists earned gold, and six Division 1 ensembles earned gold at the contest at Perry Meridian High School in Indianapolis.





Freshman William Akins III sings his solo, "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch." "My favorite part of choir is being able to work with Mrs. Reinhard," Akins said. Akins earned a gold rating in Division I from the Indiana State School Music Association state contest in February.



During the annual holiday concert, Freshman Rebekah Mongold sang the song, "New Gift of Love." "I not only enjoy the singing, but I also like the choreography we do for our performances," Mongold said. Joining her in so



Performing "Have Yourself a Meny, Little Christmas" is Junior Erik White. "I joined choir because I love being in a room with people that love doing the same thing I low to do," White said. White earned a gold rating in Division 1 from the ISSMA state contest in February.





Everyone was on stage to sing "Christmas Time is Here." "I love to sing because it's a way to let my passion show. I like choir because I get to sing with people that love singing as much as I do," Senior Russell Cole II said. Cole eamed a gold rating from ISSMA at the state contest.



With Senior Russell Cole II at her side, Senior Mariah Trigg sings a solo during the song, 'Christmas Gifts.'' I love being able to perform on stage with people. It feels like family. Choir prepares me for what I want to do in life. It has been my outlet since the beginning of high school,' Trigg said. ''Choir helps you build your foundation and learn the basic skills you need to be an excellent singer, and once you've accomplished all that, it's pure enjoyment.''



Singing to the song "White Christmas," Junior Adrian Weaver tries to emulate the simplicity of the song as Bing Crosby sang it. "I had been singing all of my life, and I thought, This is something I'd like to do," Weaver said. A bassist, Weaver earned a gold rating from ISSMA at the state contest.



In front of the crowd singing in Reinhart Auditorium, Junior Chardonnay Balkcom performs with Senior Alexx Wright and members of the advanced choir. "I enjoy being in choir with people who like the same things as me and



Transming a come of a first a system I proved them 7 to 2 for a company of the co

"I have always loved the sound of the flute, ever since I was a little girl," Senior Samantha Bailey said. Flutists must learn to keep their instrument parallel to the ground as they perform, Bailey said.



Sophomore flutist Jovanna Johnson concentrates on the music and



Playing the clarinet during the holiday concert, Freshman Isabella Stevens concentrates on her performance. "We are awesome, and we could inspire people to play," Stevens said. Stevens has been playing since the summer before sixth grade. "Mr. Danielson is a great director and pushes us to be the best we can," Stevens added.

While playing clarinet, Junior Charizma Jackson concentrates on Band Director Mark Danielson and plays "The Chipmunk Song." "This specific concert was the best," Jackson said.





"We could rock your grandma's socks off and could bring a whole new light into your musical thought."





Performing Arts

B

Music from as far back as 1960s, pop, rock and hip-hop, as well as music from singer-songwriter Lady Gaga, were all part of the 2010-11 band repertoire.

While many students were still on vacation, band members began learning their music and performed in the town's July 4 parade. Once school began, band students were busy, playing at football games in the fall, marching in the Chicago Thanksgiving Day parade, presenting concerts at school, competing at the Indiana State School Music Association-sponsored competitions and playing at basketball games all winter.

"Before school even starts, we have an intense band camp," Junior Joseph Drapeau said. "For the July 4 parade, we practiced two days a week to prepare."

The ISSMA marching season presents a special set of challenges for the band. Students must memorize the music, learn to march with steps to a specific area on the field and follow the drum major, all at the same time.

"Everyone needs to focus, and the band as a whole needs to do it," Drapeau said. "In competition, we are measured as a whole, so we spend a lot of time teaching the freshmen."

This year's theme was "Stringendo," and the marching band earned a silver rating during ISSMA's District Marching Band Competition.

"The whole show starts really slowly with classical music and then changes from piece to piece, accelerating in tempo," Drapeau said.

Section leaders help with the marching and the music and run section rehearsals. Practice in class includes warm-ups and scales before working on songs.

"They know what to do and when to do it," Band Director Mark Danielson said.
"This is what they do, not just something they pick up. They know the routines and how to do it."

"The hardest part of marching," noted Junior Ashley Ahlborn, "is getting the technique perfect for the movement because if it's not right, the formation is off. You have to be in a zone."

In April at the ISSMA Organizational Contest, the Symphonic Band earned a silver rating and the Wind Ensemble earned a bronze.



"Marchers have to use a special technique of rolling their feet as they march. The size of each step a marcher takes has to be exact, and we must memorize the music and step in time with everyone else," Junior Joseph Drapeau said.



As they march in the 2010 Chicago Thanksgiving Day Parade, Junior Joseph Patton, Sophomore Imani Shelby, Senior Ashley Jamerson and Junior Daniel Lipp anticipate entering the end of the parade's TV zoneo "where people are everywhere and there is so much energy," Jamerson



To project the sound from the clannet, Junior Ashley Ahlborn holds her instrument at "a perfect angle." She said the hardest part of Marching Band is "getting the technique perfect for the movement because if it's not right, our formation is off."



"Band is challenging. It's a lot of work."

Senior Ashley Jamerson



Tamor indicasa. It is van Turi. It also one challer uno muale That gives the contelling to do it is also entry table persona we are like a big failily.



As the three violinists bow up, Juniors Nikko Sadural and Pauline Panayi and Sophomore Kara Phillips focus on their music. "Orchestra teaches me responsibility," Panayi said. While playing an up bow,

While playing an up bow,
Sophomore cellist Miguel
Lagunas and Sophomore violist
Nathan Rodriguez perform at
the holiday concert. "Orchestra
is a great experience and it is a
great excitement," Lagunas said.
Lagunas has been playing the
cello since the summer before
sixth grade. "I like orchestra, but
sometimes I feel the teacher
doesn't challenge me enough,"
Rodriguez said. Rodriguez plans (Arbdriguez plans tollege.



At the holiday concert, Sophomore cellist Allison Gronli plays the song "Holberg Suite" by Edvard Grieg. "It's a pretty energetic, festive-type music. I really liked that one. When I'm playing it, I put a lot of passion and exertion into it."



Bowing her violin, Senior violinist Angela Reynolds earned first chair for the holiday concert. "My advantage of being in orchestra is I get scholarships and it builds my character," Reynolds said.





"If they work on it on their own, they're guing in improve gradually. Dut steepy. And i thin, their work occurring stong great the re-gather more poop players and more apopta minipred.



While pitching her violin, Sophomore violinist Lauren Harding concentrates on the correct notes. "I joined orchestra because I liked the sound of the instrument, and to me it's kind of a challenge, and I like a challenge," Harding said.



As Double Bassists Freshman Marcus Bass and Juniors Erin Weiss and Lauren Blackwell perform, they pay attention to their sheet music and their director. "Its fun to play in front of an audience," Weiss said. "You get a little nervous because you always want the piece to sound good."



The beginning, intermediate and advanced orchestras performed several concerts throughout the year. At the holiday concert, both orchestras performed separate pieces in front of a full audience. The beginning and intermediate orchestras performed "Candy Cane Christmas," "Brook Green Suite" and "A Charlie Brown Christmas." The advanced orchestra played the prelude from "Holberg Suite," "Allegro" from "Symphony in G," "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear" and "Holiday Pops."

"We introduce the music for each event and get to know it, and gradually correct errors and musical elements that we think would make it enjoyable for the audience and good for us to develop new music." Orchestra Director John Bradford said.

Practicing in orchestra is essential to improving skills on the stringed instruments. The classes spend in-school time training for the next performance. Time is also required out of school to practice for a piece or to keep up with the scales.

"If you're not prepared, you have to practice all the time, because you're never perfect at anything. You're just constantly practicing to make everything better," Sophomore Erica Homier said.

Orchestra students also prepare for three Indiana State School Music Association competitions. Both intermediate and advanced orchestras earned gold ratings at ISSMA District. The advanced orchestra also earned gold in sight-reading.

A total of 49 musicians attended the ISSMA festival in January, earning gold and silver medals in their solo and ensemble performances. Thirty players performed in three ensembles during the State Festival in May.

Soloists qualifying for the ISSMA State Festival include Seniors Kaitlyn Sweeney and Angela Reynolds, Juniors Nikko Sadural, Pauline Panyai and Cameron Grundy, Sophomores Avery Sameshima, Allison Gronli and Emma Harper and Freshman Kayla Sadural.

Performing Arts



As he sings "Music of the Night" to his protege, the young soprano Christine Daae (Junior Taylor Carter), the Phantom (Junior Adrian Weaver) puts her into a trance.
"The best part was being on stage. That's where I like to be," Weaver said.



Early in the play, Raoui (Senior Matthew Fayson) wants to meet the young soprano, Christine Daae, who was his childhood friend. Monsieur Firmin (Senior Russell Cole II) and Monsieur Andre (Freshman William Akins III) lead him to her room. Fayson said performing on the stage is his comfort zone. "It's like another home. Any problems I might just have or anything negative will go away." he said.



During a rehearsal for the musical "Hannibal," which is sung within "The Phantom of the Opera," Sophomore Jocelyn Recio, Senior Charity Scollon, Sophomore Eluzabeth Long, Senior Vanessa Harwood, and Senior Arreat Terry sing the title song. "During the performances, it was actually a lot of fun. I got to meet a lot of people from the cast. It was just an enjoyment," Long said.



After the Phantom uses his power to after Carlotta's voice and slop the production of "Ill Muto." the ballerinas, Senior Mariah Trigs, Senior Gloria Graham and Junior Kandice Nicholson, perform a ballet to keep the audience in their seast. "I feel like there's no one watching me. That's will feel most comfortable, like I can just do anything, be anyone. It's like a dream world." Trigs said. She said she experiences stage fright, and the lights on the stage hide the watching audience from her weet.

Producing a 'phan'tastic show



After the Phantom sends notes to the opera house staff insisting that a younger singer become the lead soprano. Carlotta Giudicelli (Senior Roben Ward) becomes upset and sings: Prima Donna" with Firmin. Andre. Raoul, and the cast: "really leal nothing but the character. I try to bring the character out. I couldn't go on stage acting as Roben Word or else the character wouldn't have been was if was; "Ward's aid."

"The Phantom of the Opera" exceeded the expectations of both the audience and the cast.

This play was performed for six days, giving people better opportunities to attend After each performance, the participants tried to find ways to make the play better. Each performance had an average of over 300 people in attendance, some of the audience attending more than one of the plays. Over 1,800 people attended overall.

Director and Musical Director Melinda Reinhart thought performing "The Phantom of the Opera" was a unique opportunity. "It was the area premiere of the show. We are one of the first in Indiana to even do the show." Reinhart said.

Assistant Director Steve Elser helped the staff prepare for the play. "I helped run rehearsals, worked with individual actors and, basically, did what I had to do to help." Elser has been involved in drama for about

Rehearsing for the play took a total of three months. From Monday to Friday after school, cast, crew and musicians practiced and went over the play in preparation for opening night.

Stage crew members had a part in making the play. The ten stage crew members had to be willing to help every day of rehearsal and during the performances.

They built the sets and moved them during changes in the scenes of the play. Sophomore Alexandria Romanow was one of the communicators during the play.

"I was expecting it to be a lot less work, even though we didn't know what we were getting ourselves into," she said. As a crew member, Romanow communicated between crew members to cue sets and the actors in specific scenes of the play.

Most sets were found, but others had to be created for the play, including a huge chandelier that had to crash to the floor and a boat.

Junior Taylor Carter said she was shocked when it was announced she would play the role of Christine Daae in the play. "I didn't believe it. It took a while to sink in," Carter said.

Junior Adrian Weaver starred in one of the leading roles as the Phantom.

"The hardest part about being in the play was keeping your mental and physical health up to par because you can lose yourself," he said.

Both Weaver and Carter enjoyed the roar of the audience and being on stage.



In the first scene, Senior Brandon. Shee plays the part of an auctioneer to introduce some of the background and characters. "He was an older gentleman, so I had to put on an accent and use a different vocabulary to sound like I'm older." Shea said. He also had to change his physical appearance, standing taller to appear more like an auctioneer in the 1800s.

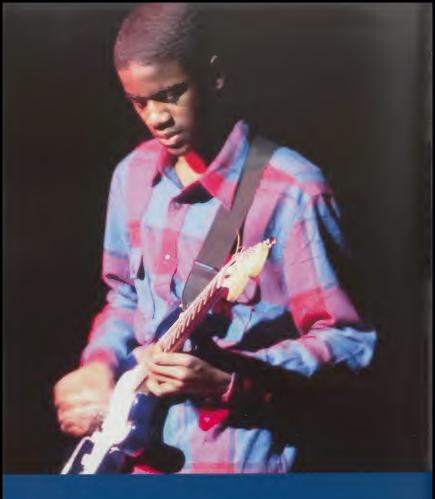


In rehearsal, Judge Olivia Gaffney (Junior Jasmine Washington) stands surprised as Nurse Ruth Kelly (Senior Gloria Graham) pretends to hug Lyman Sanderson (Senior Joshua Melvin). Nurse Ruth Kelly and Lyman Sanderson were joyed when Dr. Chumley (Senior Richard Smith) offered Lyman his job back as a psychiatrist. "I was pretly nervous because it was my first time acting," Washington said said. When performing, Washington said she eventually got over her fear. She thinks of putting emotion into her lines to make her character seem me.

Rabbit makes big news in 'Harvey'



Giving money to E.J. Lofgren (Junior Brandon Neal), Elwood P. Dowd (Senior Russelli Cole II) expects Lofgren to bring his sister to him. Cole feels excited when performing." Heel this rush because the audience is there." he said. Cole said he was shrilled to know that he had the leading role of the play.



Events

Luqmann Ruth Just had a client, another one comin up. Contact me for a recording session!

Pages

fall & winter
homecoming 146
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grand march &
prom 156
senior events 158

Albums





Wall



Shelby Newell

Today was pretty good! I got some new maxes in advance fitness. My dodgeball team in in 2nd place and we have our spot in the tournament. Now im gonna chill with my bro daye, text me.



Taishe Abrams

OMG so happy I won basketball homecoming queen!!! Thanks Merriliville Seniors! Love you All:) i couldn't have did this without yall! thanks to everyone that came to support me!! helped me lo!! love yall too! =)



Sabrina Abrams

"Prom looking with the sister Latrice Reed having too much fur...but AN: looking for someone to go to prom with...hit me up SN; kinda bored; gonna listen to some music"



Abigail Kirkpatrick

soo today seems amazing :D today is PEACH COBBLER day at the career center :) be jealous Michael Perkins: Then going out later with Marissa Novak, Megan McGilly and maybe Deanna Scott? Happy Ugly sweater day :D



Lacey Richards

Everyone who goes to MHS, don't forget tomorrow's '80s day..Don't be too cool for school

PHOTOS AT LEFT: At the Revue, Senior Marissa Novak introduces the next act. After they registered at the door for Winter Homecoming, Sophomores Andres Vega, Natalia Ooms, Destiny Yoder, Rachel Baran and Kasie Antich head toward the dance floor.



Big participation in Fall Homecoming

Students celebrated Fall Homecoming from October 27 to November 2.

Events included Spirit Week for students to dress up, the Goofy Games for class competition, a parade and the game Friday evening.

The game provided plenty of highlights, even though Merrillville suffered a loss to Valparaiso. The week listel proved to be worth the experience. Melanee Stubbs was crowned Homecoming queen, while Denzel Pierce came away with the Mr. Football honors.

From Wacky Tacky Day to Nerd Day, participation was at an all-time high during the week.

"It seemed that every student was doing it. There were a lot of people participating from each class," Senior Michael Gillis said.

Much like any other year, the Senior Class came away with a win over all the other classes in the Goofy Games.

The Homecoming parade featured floats representing each class and many clubs.

"I thought it was well put together, and everyone enjoyed it," Sophomore Elizabeth Long said.

The big story came with the Homecoming dance.

Many students waited until the last minute to

buy their tickets for the dance. This proved to be a mistake. With a record number of students planning to attend, tickets sold fast and were not being sold anymore by Friday.

Students rebelled on the final day of the week. Many came to school wearing the color green for the opposing Valparaiso football team.

"I really don't know why I wore green. I thought it was a cool thing and just continued to spread the word to other students," Sophomore Daquan Williams said.





Working to finish the MFAC float for the Homecoming parade, Junior Dean Davis clips the banner to the wood. "My coach picked me to be in MFAC. I enjoy it because it's really cool to meet up with other people in other sports," Davis said. MFAC is a leadership program, and athletes are selected by their coaches for membership.



After going down the pudding slide, Senior Eleni Kazonis smiles from the excitment. "I've never done it in my life." It was good to bond with the graduating class," Kazonis said. The pudding slide is a mixture of chocolate pudding and water that everyone gets the opportunity to slide down.

After being crowned the 2010 Homecoming queen, Senior Melanee Stubbs accepts flowers from her brother. "Before, I was so nervous because I heard everyone did not get the chance to vote. After, I was so excited I could not stop smiling," Stubbs said. Stubbs used ribbons and posters to campaian.





Voted by his fellow teammates as 2010 Mr. Football, Senior Denzel Pierce accepts the football from Head Coach Zac Wells. "Honestly, I really was not thinking anything when they announced my name. My head was still in the game," Pierce said. Pierce is a starting running back.



Freshman Rayquane' Forte Wacky Tacky Day



h Harris is my BFF, eople say we look alike. We had fun being alike and taking pictu 🧠. 🧠

Senior Rebekkah Kimani Twin Day



Gogled nerd hair and did it. Everyone was just like,

Freshman Michael Spudic Nerd Day



did Celebrity Day because wanted to show my school spirit and to have fun. I wanted to be somebody unique, so I chose Billy Mays. Nobody knew who I was until I pulled outme OxyClean.

Sophomore Zachary Goralczyk Celebrity Day



Junior Brittney Upshaw Pirate Pride Day



to the fact that the Fall Homecomina sold out, the Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council sponsored Winter Homecoming in February.

really good. I was really

upset that it sold out. A

to go," Newell said. Due

lot of the seniors didn't get

Dancing at the Fall Homecoming, Senior Shelby Newell pushes through the crowd of people. "The dance was awesome, and the food was With someone special to share the evening, Sophomore Joseph Brady dances with his date, Freshman Conor Shea. "Homecoming is a night you should share with someone special." Brady said. At the end of the night, Brady and Shea collected two red glow sticks.



Students enjoy a winter in Paris

"Winter in Paris" was the theme of the Winter Homecoming. This was the first time were MHS had a second Homecoming. Since the Fall Homecoming was sold out, the staff decided to let students have another opportunity to go to Homecoming and have a good time.

"It was creative, and the dance turned out good," Sophomore Joseph Traina said. The Fall Homecoming had around 700 students in attendance, and the Winter Homecoming had 262 students in attendance.

"I think the first Homecoming was better, because there were a lot more people," Sophomore Joseph Brady said.

At the Winter Homecoming, drinks, sandwiches and chips were offered in the refreshment room. "The refreshment room was a good place if you just wanted to sit down and hang out with your friends and socialize," Sophomore Amber Smith said.

The idea for the second Homecoming of the year was a success. It wasn't too crowded in the Hall of Flags, and everyone had a good time dancing. "Even though ten minutes right before Homecoming started I got the bad news, my boyfriend got in trouble, but my night ended great. Dancing and laughing at Homecoming made me forget about the bad news," Junior Kaitlyn Cygan said.



Smiling at her date.

graduate Michael

first Homecomina

Perkins's hands. "The

was way better. It had

more upperclassmen, and everyone seemed to have more fun," Kirkpatrick said. "After Homecoming, Mike and I went out to Taco Depot," Kirkpatrick said.

Senior Abigail



Sophomore Rachel Baran "fist pumps" with a group of friends. "I loved dancing with my friends. It was the best part about my night," Baran said. Baran attended the dance with her close friends Sophomores Kasie Anlich

Students congregate on the dance floor with Freshman Kristen Wiley. "I liked the first Homecoming a lot better because more people attended "Wiley said.



Fleady to hit the dance floor is Sophomore Brianne Baylor. "The best part of the dance was the end, when they sctually played good music," Baylor said. "I would rather go to Homecoming with a date because I wouldn't have to share him with anyone." Faylor added.



In a group of people, Freshman Kasey Stewart talks with her friends. "The dance was good. It had a preity setup and everything," Stewart said. This was Stewart's first Homecoming, "I wish they would have advertised it more so more people would have gone," Stewart said.

On the dance floor, Freshman Makayla Webster talks among her friends. "After Homecoming, a group of us went to Applebee's. I was mad they were out of classical chicken wings." Webster said.

Resting after dancing, Sophomore Dakota Pitts sits with her friends. "My date for Homecoming was Harris Rosenbalm from Lowell High School," Pitts said. "The best part of the night was dancing with all my friends," Pitts added.







FCCLA events



Shocked that she was voted Freshman Queen, Janell King poses for a picture." I didn't think I was going to get voted queen, but when they said my name, I kept saying. Oh my god, oh my god, are you serious?" King attended the dance with her friends.



While on the dance floor, Sophomore Trevor Leonhardt dances with his friends, Senior Jessica Martin and her sister, Rebecca Martin. "The best part about the night was the dancing. They had a really good DJ," Leonhardt said. Leonhardt said the best song they played was "You and Me" by Lifehouse.



Dropping the ballot into the box, Freshman Teirra Davis votes for her friend, Audrianna Downs, for Freshman Queen. "I wanted Audiranna to win because I felt she deserved it," Davis said.

Being pronounced as Sophomore Queen, Amanda Currier gets the crown placed on her head. "I went to the dance with my boyfriend, Sophomore Zachary Fles," Currier said. Currier also attended the dance her freshman year.





bring out the dancing feet



Playing the air guitar, Senior Benjamin Banks enjoys the dance. "More than 100 kids from five different schools attended the dance," FCCLA sponsor Carol Von Behren said. FCCLA sponsors the dance each winter.



As she does each year, graduate Amanda Rysiewicz returns to enjoy dancing the night away. "There is not an age limit for the Inclusion Dance. People of all ages attend," Barb Dlouhy said.





While the song "YMCA" is played, Sophomore Jenna Rose forms a "Y" with her arms. "At the beginning of the year, students start asking about the dance because they are so excited and anxious for it." Barb Dlouhy said. Dlouhy works with special education students at MHS.

Listening to the music, Freshmen Jimmy Aiken and Michael Purvis enjoy their time socializing. The Inclusion Dance is sponsored by FCCLA. "The dance is a social outlet to get together and have a great night dancing," Barb Dlouhy said.



ROTC celebrates with ball

Every spring, the AFJROTC students get a chance to let go and break away from all their stress and military duties and have a good time at the Military Ball.

The Military Ball is a formal event that includes an opening ceremony, formal dinner and dancing.

Although the AFJROTC students are encouraged to enjoy themselves, they must also maintain proper etiquette.

Unlike other school dances, the students are graded on their attendance, the behavior and etiquette of their dates and their attire.

"Attendance was like the biggest portion of our grade." Sophomore Amber Clay said.

The night began with a ceremony and a speech by guest speaker, teacher James Simon. Senior AFJNOTC students were recognized and rewarded for their achievements and accomplishments. After the ceremony, the students had a formal dinner and later, dancing.

Many of the students found some parts of Military Ball to be more entertaining than others.

"It was fun. The formal part was decent, but the informal part was very entertaining." Sophomore O'shea Owens said.

"All in all, I had a great time at the Military Ball." Owens said.

"The formal part was okay, but the dancing was really fun." Freshman Jasmine Lilia said.



As part of the ROTC's Adopt A Highway community service project, Junior Marquis Hudson and Sophomore Zachary Fles join Maj, Guy Ramey picking up debris on Broadway. "It felt good to contribute in helping our environment. Im making an impact around the world," Fles said. ROTC members decided to have an encore of an earlier clean-up event when they cleaned from 51st and Broadway to 72nd.





As Junior Talia Constant explores the inside of the model of a spaceship in Dayton, Ohio, she said she tried to imagine what it would be like to experience traveling in space. "It was really cool," Constant said. Constant said she plans on taking another trip with ROTC members.







During the opening ceremonies of the Military Ball, people at the head table raise their glasses to make a toast to the flag. the president of the United States and the Air Force. Kenyah Haney, Junior Marquis Hudson, Junior Juan Arellano, James Simon, Jenn Simon and Maj. Guy Ramey stand as they make the three toasts.





Command Staff

Front row: Chauncey Walker, Victoria Verduzco, Donisha Webster, Talia Constant; Back row: Victor Arellano, Garett Gault.



Advanced Armed Drill Team

Front row: Jocelyn Recio, Donisha Webster, Talia Constant, James Schilling; Back row: Anthony Pitts. Gregory Brousseau, Michael Jones, Michael Mitchell, Garett Gault.



Advanced Unarmed Drill Team

Front row: Jocelyn Recio, Donisha Webster, Cheyenne Briner, Amber Spear; Back row: Anthony Pitts, Gregory Brousseau, Michael Jones, Que'Anna Barnslater, James Schilling.



First-Year Drill Team

Front row: Kimber Brown, Lynette Ruiz, Tiera Bean, Troy Smith; Back row: Michael Mitchell, Perijana Williams, Domonique Lambert, David Jordan, Kemeyon Ward.



Raider Challenge

Trevor Timmons, Jessica Jackson, Michael Norwood, Zachary Tomb, Xavier Pitts, Branton Wingate.



Front row: Shannon Thurson, Jocelyn Recio, Cheyenne Briner, Talia Constant, Donisha Webster: Back row: Michael Mitchell, Kemeyon Ward, Marcus Bass, Garett Gault.



Showcasing student talent

Seniors Samantha Balash, Marissa Novak and ard Smith



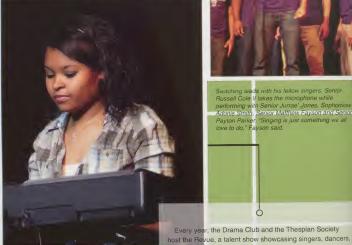
As she plays the keyboard, Junio Kayla Greene sings "Jar of Hearts" by Christiana Perri. "The highlight of my performance was being on stage with my best friend Lea (Neligan) and just having a good time," said



Switching leads with his fellow singers, Senior Russell Cole II takes the microphone while performing with Senior Jurrae' Jones, Sophomore Adonis Smith, Senior Matthew Fayson and Senior Payton Parker: "Singing is just something we all love to do," Fayson said.



r Lea Neligan



musicians and a magician. "The Revue gives the students a chance to do something they don't normally do and show off their talents," said Drama Director Steve Elser.

Many students practiced for weeks, even months, before it was time for the show.

"I practiced with my friend, but even when we couldn't practice together, we practiced alone," Junior Kayla Greene

The show was presented over two nights, Feb. 16 and 17. Sixty students participated on and off the stage, with 14 acts

"We would like to see a juggler," Elser said, "but we haven't found one yet."





Juniors Kandice Nicholson and Erik White

For the 2011 Lip Sync Contest, PNN decided to go with an '80s theme. This helped the audience and performers remember where a lot of the current music came from and how much it has changed.

The crowd grew wild as they saw and heard their peers on the stage performing. The final three groups were Tha Krew, Take 5 and Fly Society.

In the end, Take 5 was announced as the winner of this year's Lip Sync Contest.

"What we really looked for in each group was apperance, crowd response, originality, choreography and, of course, lip syncing, and Take 5 was solid in all catergories," Andrew Niksich said.

"With this being my fourth year as a judge, this Lip Sync was one of the best," Niksich said.

"Even though we didn't win, it felt good to be nominated and we still had fun, and our group, Tha Krew, did great," Senior Alexandria Norton said. Seniors Kalliopl Haramantas, David Jordan,Kevin Henry III and Eleni Kazonis









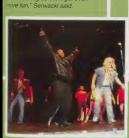
Senior Jasmine Suggs

d Jasmine Robinson



Ferforming "Walk This Way"
by Run-DMC and Aerosmith,
members of the PNN cast Senior
Pabert Robinson and Juniors
lan Stacks and Adam Serwacki
get the show started, "We only
stracticed for two days," Robinson
said. "We weren't really nervous,
lwas fun being on stage, and

when the crowd was screaming





and Loren O'Neal, Junior Worgan Wallon and Senio Lakarra Hendricks and Robin Williamson



RRILLVILLE HIGH

Combining choreography with the Omarion song, Take 5 wins first place and the grand prize of \$500. "It was fun being on stage, and the crowd made it even better," Senior Anton Redmon Jr. said. Practicing every day over Winter Break. Redmon and Seniors Payton Parker, Jory Cunningham, Matthew Fayson and Tyrone Brown worked out the dance steps, songs and outfits to ensure an original performance. "All of us are different and like different things, and that started a lot of lights, but we had a lot of laughs. Even though we acted like a bunch of girls, we have a closer bond now than we did before," Redmon



Seniors Marian Turner and Terry Taylor





Senior Ariel Currie

Juniors Rosaryn Baker Shalondrea Henry and
Senior Mariah Trigg

Let lips do the singing

PHOTOS ON LEFT: Junior Prom Queen candidates: Morgan Lamb, Megan Dicken and Morgan Gunn
PHOTOS ON RIGHT: Junior Prom King candidates: Budolph Sanchez IV and Nikko Sadural



At the Grand March, Juniors Abraham Carcia and Belia Mercado were crowned the King and Queen of the 2011 Prom. Mercado and Garcia went to Prom to dance with their friends and have a good lime. "It's a moment to be cherished. You get to dance and have fun while looking good," Garcia said. "Prom is meant for everyone to enjoy. It's like a ritual," Mercado said.



At the Grand March, Senior Abigail Kirkpatrick is escorted by 2010 graduate Michael Perkins. Prompoers stood as the crowds of family members watched them march before Prom. "I was looking forward to the Grand March and Prom. It was one of the last times the seniors got to be together," Kirkpatrick said.



Senior Markell McMurray escorted Senior Jenniyne Adams at the Grand March. "Everybody there was strutting out their stuff," McMurray said. "Prom is an experience I couldn't forget."

Once Junior Victoria Handerson was out of the limo with her friends, her mind focused on how interesting Prom would be. "The best part was the preparation adding to Prom. It was overwhelming, but exciting," Henderson said.



The Class of 2011 hoped to make their final stand at Prom and make the dance worth the money.

This year's theme was "Night by the Nile." Students rented limos, went out to eat and simply enjoyed the dance. It was highly anticipated and a lot of people showed up.

"I had fun and I'm going make sure I do it my junior and senior year too," Sophomore TiaQue'na Smith said.

Behind the fun, many seniors found themselves spending over their budget.



Seniors Marshawn Filley, Jory Cunningham, Robert Flosinson and Dean Hughes dance on stage, "Prom was one of the last dances I would go to as a senior before I graduated, so I wanted to just let loose," Hughes said. Hughes said he mimicked a dance he saw In a movie.

Laughing with his friend Junior John Mosley, Senior Malik Muhammad enjoys his time at Prom. "Prom is one of the biggest experiences to remember. It brings the most memones of high school," Muhammad said.



"Although I spent a lot of money on my debts, ticket, activities and tux, me and my guys had a once in a lifetime experience. It was definitely worth it," Senior Malik Muhammad said.

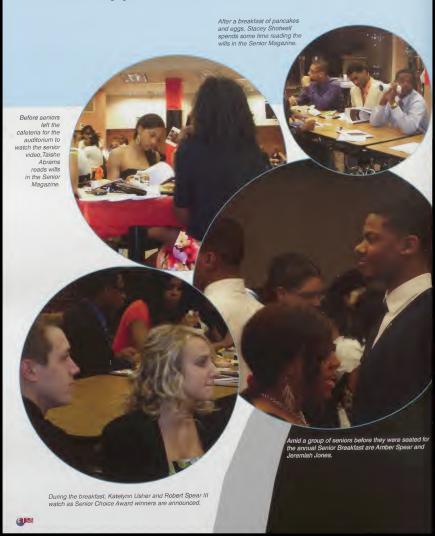
Muhammad chose not to participate in his Prom last year, but he said he made the best of it this year.

With participation at an all time high this year, Prom capped off a wonderful year for both classes, with a little over 500 students participating.



With hands raised above his head, Senior Darien Gornick dances along with the other students. "I had a pretty good time. I got to have fun with the other seniors," Gornick said.

Bacon, eggs, awards and drive-around

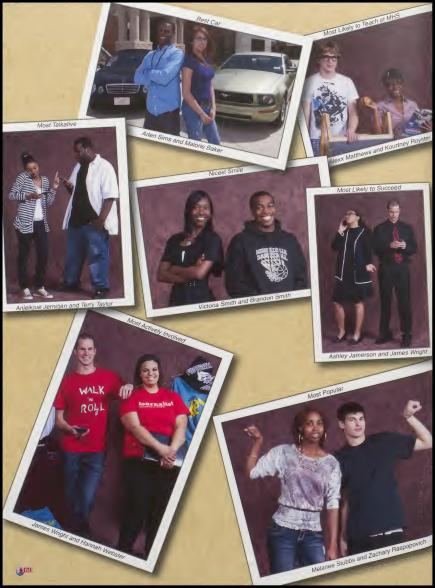


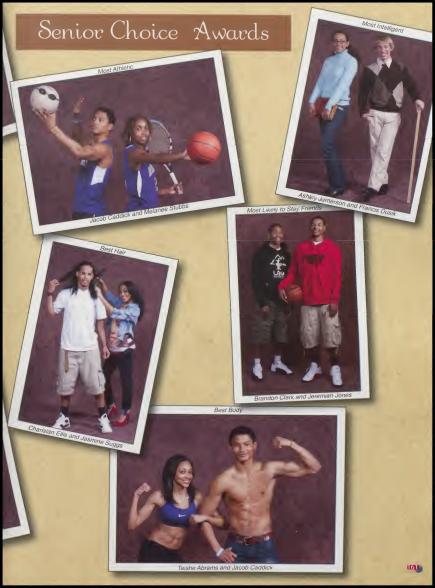
signal last days of school for seniors

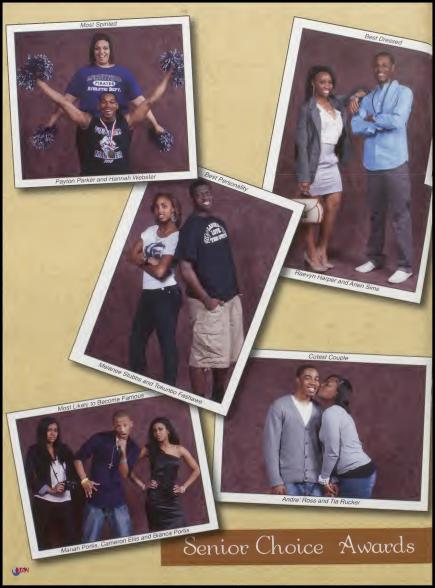


As the traffic behind Alexander Matthews drives a small tractor

> The Caruana family boat provided transportation in the Drive-Around for Jacob Caddick, Kevin Caruana, Francis Dusik, Gloria Graham, Kelsey Sajdera, Jason Strimbu, Clyde Byrd III and Jill Ross.











Mariah Trigg and Richard Smith







Lindsay Sanchez and Jory Cunningham

Graduation opens door to future







As Superintendent Dr. Tony Lux shakes his right hand, Senior Antonio Bates takes his diploma with his left hand.

"I'm taking on the attude of Paul in Phillipians 3.13 when he writes Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended but this one thing I do, lorgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before. Although we've made some significant accomplishments thus far in our lives, and will have another to add to the list after graduation, we can't hold onto the past. We have bigger and better things to do and look forward to." Senior Payton Parker at Baccalaureate May 29, 2011



"I know all of you tell each other you are going to keep in contact, but seriously, make sure you do. I know that some of you say you cannot send the first text, but get over yourself and reach out to those who have made a difference."

Class President James Wright



As the next graduating class of MHS, we all possess the capacity to do greatness in one form or another. So why not use it?"
Francis Dusik Salutatorian



"Remember the Friday nights when the basketball and football teams were supported by...all of us from different parts of life brought together for one event." Samantha Bailey Valedictorian



"For those of us who have a way of cajoling our teachers to push back due dates, we'll find out that some due dates are actually literal." Ashley Jamerson Valedictorian Class president James Wright danced the Cat Daddy and Dougle. Salutatorian Francis Dusik broke out Hallmark graduation cards for "words of wisdom." Valedictorian Kelsey Sajdera brought her baby blanket to show the importance of having things in life that can "make you smile."

On June 2, 555 seniors crossed the stage at the Star Plaza Theatre to accept their diploma covers. Speeches by Valedictorians Samantha Bailey, Ashley Jamerson and Kelsey Sajdera, along with Salutatorian Francis Dusik, Class President James Wright, Class Treasurer Hannah Webster and the keynote speaker, social studies teacher Michael Knocke marked the night. The orchestra opened the ceremony as the graduates of 2011 proceeded into the theatre.

The speeches covered all areas of the spectrum. Some used humor, others used words of wisdom and insight, but many involved poking fun at fellow

classmates and sharing some favorite memories.

"I felt so special to be mentioned," Senior Jacob Caddick

> said. "I felt that I was a big part of the school and I made an impact."

Mr. Knocke received the most votes to become the keynote speaker, and he shared his experiences, which included a

tough first year of college and the struggles he faced as a first-year teacher.

Throughout his speech, he jokingly recalled some "life lessons" taught by his fellow teachers, including Social Studies teacher James Stamper's lessons of "the dangers and horrible effects coffee can cause."

Joking aside, Mr. Knocke stressed three life lessons.

"Make sure you have a role model in your life, have empathy for others and always learn from your mistakes," Knocke said

Despite the celebration, the graduates had to return to school to make-up three days missed from February's snowstorm.

"I wasn't that excited about graduation," Senior Raevyn Harper said. "There are still three more days."

The graduates came from all different levels of achievement. Some worked harder than others and some coasted through, but the ceremony gave the graduates a chance to come together for the last time to celebrate their high school years.

"It wasn't that emotional, and I didn't get the effect I was expecting," Senior Ashayna Price said. "It was fun, but it felt like another get together since we had three more days."

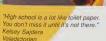
"It wasn't boring like I expected," Senior Jason Strimbu said. "It went smoothly."

Before the graduates were announced, Principal Michael Krutz recognized the four longtime teachers retiring after this year: Mary Ann Bertram, Evelyn Steiner, Miles Dunscombe and Jeff Yelton.

Though the ceremony ended with rain instead of the tossing of caps, graduates cheered and relatives cried tears of both joy and sadness. Then the purple and white balloons. dropped from the rafters of the Star Plaza Theatre.

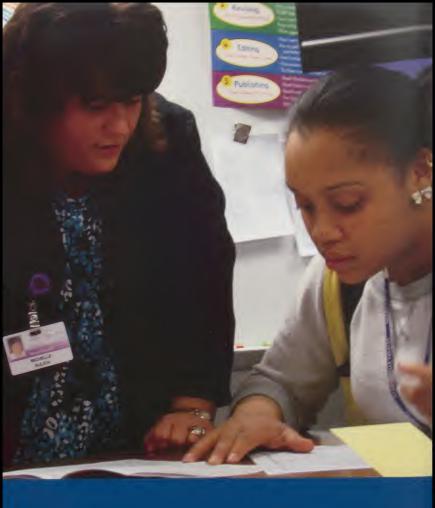
Mr. Krutz left the graduates with an excerpt from a poem: "The future lies before you like a field of driven snow. Be careful how you tread it, for every step will show."

Backstage, Senior Samantha Tomb waits for her name to be called.









Links

Michelle Sulich Another great day to be a Pirate. Spent the day preparing students for upcoming A.P. testing and I am hoping they do well. Approaching the end of another successful school year. I can't believe summer is almost here.

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Wall



Allison Varela

Can't wait for college life at IUPUI. I'm excited to study in the Health Science program. My dream is to be a child development specialist.



Raven Smith

Following my dream to get a bachelor's degree in human services. I want to be the person who places the elderly man in a clean nursing home or a child into proper foster care. Would love to counsel pplez in need of family therapy. It may be hard, but this is no wish, its a guarantee.



Natalie Warren

Planning on going to dog grooming school in Frankfort, Illinois. checked out the school ths spring and going to start June 13. After that, I already have a job lined up at "Bark and Call."



Jeremiah Jones

Prep school 4 a year to reclassify to my original graduating class (2012). Plan to attend a college uni and play bball at the highest level and hopefully within 4 yrz turn myself n2 a pro.



PHOTOS AT LEFT: Longtime Merrillville business Brandy's Safe and Lock is located at 73rd and Broadway. Students enjoy the elegance of the Avalon Manor in Merrillville at the annual Prom in May.



The Avalon Manor Banquet Center



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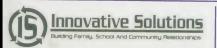
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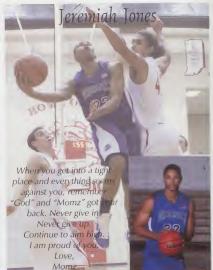
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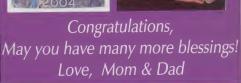
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Closing the doors and starting the summer June 2 had all of the students excited. Mother Nature had another idea. Record-breaking snow and three snow days forced seniors to come back after graduation, ending the school year June 7. Earlier in the year, students rebelled against the dress policy for Homecoming Spirit Week

and wore green when the football team competed against rival Valparaiso for the Homecoming game. After the fall Homecoming dance sold out, members of the Merrillville Pirate Athletic Council sponsored a second Homecoming in the spring. Coach Jim East turned off the lights in Engelhart Gymnasium for the last time, and for the first time, spectators had to have a ticket to attend the Grand March. After a long career of teaching, four remarkable teachers retired. Throughout the events of the year, the media, especially social media, helped the students stay connected. The year proved unpredictable and, as always, hectic. Now it's time to say goodbye and log out.

Log out

Wall





The Editors Kelsey Washburn Hannah Webster

"What's on your mind?" was the question throughout the year, whether it was for what to write in a story or what should go on the page. We spent numerous hours analyzing, designing and creating ideas to enhance them into the social world.

The theme of the book was not the first thing that entered our minds. We thought about the theme for countless hours, actually for a week, until the idea of Facebook filled our brains.

Mrs. Procter was determined for us to find a theme that would promote sales and be easy to design. Well, the design aspect was more difficult than we thought, as we had to create layouts to match the copy on Facebook.

During the summer before our senior year, Mrs. Procter sent us to Ball State University for a journalism workshop. This workshop was a week long, and it tested our knowledge of yearbook and helped prepare us for the school year.

At Ball State, we learned about headlines, layouts and themes, and we had to make a pretend yearbook, which helped us make the actual book. During our stay at Ball State, our assignment was to think of a theme for the book. Things got hectic with all the long nights and lack of sleep hindering our thought processes. After finally reaching a conclusion on a theme, we immediately called Mrs. Procter, eager to tell her the good news.

A special thanks to Mrs. Procter for believing in us to make this yearbook possible and for giving us the opportunity to go to Ball State and learn everything about the yearbook. You have taught us to never give up even when things go wrong. You supported us on a Facebook themed yearbook, and as much as you were confused, you still guided us through it.

The staff for the yearbook was incredible. They gave suggestions and always went with the flow. Every class, we would all log onto Facebook to find the latest happenings and new applications that were produced. Without your help, the yearbook would never have gotten finished and we would have driven ourselves insane to keep everything going.

Our advice to the editors next year is to never procrastinate on deadline. Procrastinating on deadlines will only make more work that will need to be done in a shorter time frame. This will come back to haunt you. The other advice we have is to never panic. Things will work out and everything will fall into place and happen for a reason. Remember if things get too crazy, Mrs. Procter will know the solution and can help you get back on track.

"A goal is a dream with a deadline." Napoleon Hill









Merrillyue

As members of Quill and Scroll, the Indiana High School Press Association and the National Scholastic Press Association, the Merrillville High School yearbook staff presents this 86th volume of Merrillvue.

Under the guidance of Mrs. Teresa Procter and led by co-editors Hannah Webster and Kelsey Washburn, the third hour yearbook class developed this book with a Facebook theme.

It was our intention to create something that was not just a yearbook, but also a documentation that represents each and every perspective of high school students and the cornucopia that make us one.

First and foremost, the staff would like to thank Mrs. Procter for her intuition, patience and guidance in producing this yearbook. Without her assistance, this yearbook would not have been possible.

Mrs. Valerie T. Tanke, a sales representative for Walsworth Publishing Company, also assisted in the creation of this book. The staff would like to thank Mrs. Tanke for her help throughout the production of this book.

Thank you to HR Imaging Partners Inc., who took the underclass and faculty portraits. The yearbook staff also thanks to Mr. John Bir of John Giolas Photographers and his staff for taking all of the senior portraits along with the pictures of all the sports, clubs, concerts, dances, graduation and Senior Choice Awards. We are grateful for his willingness to attend school events in order to photograph and capture moments that will now be remembered through this yearbook.

To create this book, the staff used Adobe InDesign CS2, Microsoft Word and Adobe Photoshop. Two fonts, Helvetica and Kent, were used throughout the book. For page numbers, we took the design from Facebook, and we used a globe and the page number in a red box.

Books were sold at school and online at yearbookforever.com. After an introductory price of \$60 until October 20, books sold for \$65.

The 2011 yearbook staff would also like to gratefully acknowledge the assistance and contribution from the Athletic Department directors, staff and coaches, the secretaries of the Main Office, the Guidance Department and all teachers whose classes we constantly interrupted. Thanks to Mr. Brian Past and the PNN staff for their assistance in advertising this yearbook.

A special thank you to Raevyn Harper, Kaitlyn Phillips, Mariah Portis and all the photographers, and the staff of the school newspaper, including Alyson Austin, Meredith Dobes, Nakel McClinton, Patricia Zimmerman and James Wright, Amy Aponte, Joseph Cowser and all others we forgot to mention who have aided in the production of this book.







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Water Control



stephanie ferrell

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